

The Life, Ministry and Theology of Catherine Booth (1829-1890)

Grace Chapel

Sunday, January 27, 2013

The Life, Ministry and Theology of Catherine Booth



The Life, Ministry and Theology of Catherine Booth

- The Salvation Army is a Christian Church and a registered charity
- Founded by William Booth (1829-1912) and Catherine Booth in 1865 in East London as The Christian Mission
- Became The Salvation Army in 1878
- Officers (ministers); soldiers (laypersons)
- Ministers in over 125 countries today
- Wesleyan in its theology and practice

The Life, Ministry and Theology of Catherine Booth

- Ashbourne, Derbyshire, England
- Catherine's Father--John
- Catherine's Mother--Sarah
- Catherine's Brother--John



The Life, Ministry and Theology of Catherine Booth

Ashbourne



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Sensitivity as a Young Girl:

Total Abstinence from alcohol

Care for animals

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“A Salvation soldier should be kind-hearted, and deal lovingly with all those with whom he is associated. A soldier should manifest love and gentleness, especially in his connection with . . .the animal world. To inflict or to witness cruelty should be impossible. . . .Not only should he avoid causing any unnecessary hardship on animals, but, as far as he has opportunity, he should ever be willing to lend a hand to aid or relieve any suffering creature.”

Orders and Regulations for Soldiers of The Salvation Army (1943), chapter IV, section 8.

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The World of Catherine Booth:

- Religious
- Christian
- Protestant
- Evangelical
- Wesleyan

The Life, Ministry and Theology of Catherine Booth

John Wesley (1703-1791)



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“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And a second is like it. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.”

Matthew 22:37-40

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Charles Grandison Finney (1792-1875)



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The Life, Ministry and Theology of Catherine Booth

Phoebe Palmer (1807-1874)



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Three historic events coincided with the life and ministry of Catherine Mumford Booth:

- John Wesley and the holiness tradition--the promise of the Old Testament had come to pass at Pentecost and “your sons and your daughters shall prophesy.”
 - The revival tradition of the nineteenth century--women were free to preach, teach, and write
 - The personality of Catherine Mumford Booth
- “If I am ever in trouble with the law, don’t get me a lawyer, get me that woman!”

The Life, Ministry and Theology of Catherine Booth

- The Doctrine of Social Ministry
 - The Doctrine of Holiness
 - The Doctrine of Women in Ministry

The Life, Ministry and Theology of Catherine Booth

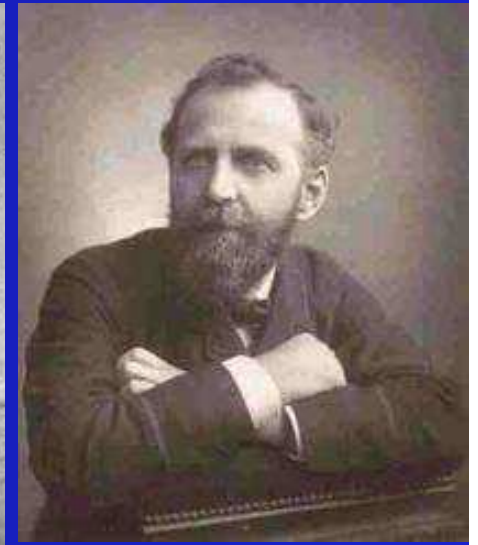
Catherine Booth, “Popular Christianity: Its Sham Compassion v. the Dying Love of Christ” 1884
Address reprinted in *Popular Christianity*.

- “Schemes without a Savior”
- “Religions of bodily compassion”—ignored serious soul-need
- Much Christian activism would result in “a more eternal weight of misery at the cost of little present relief.”

The Life, Ministry and Theology of Catherine Booth

The Purity Crusade (1885): The People

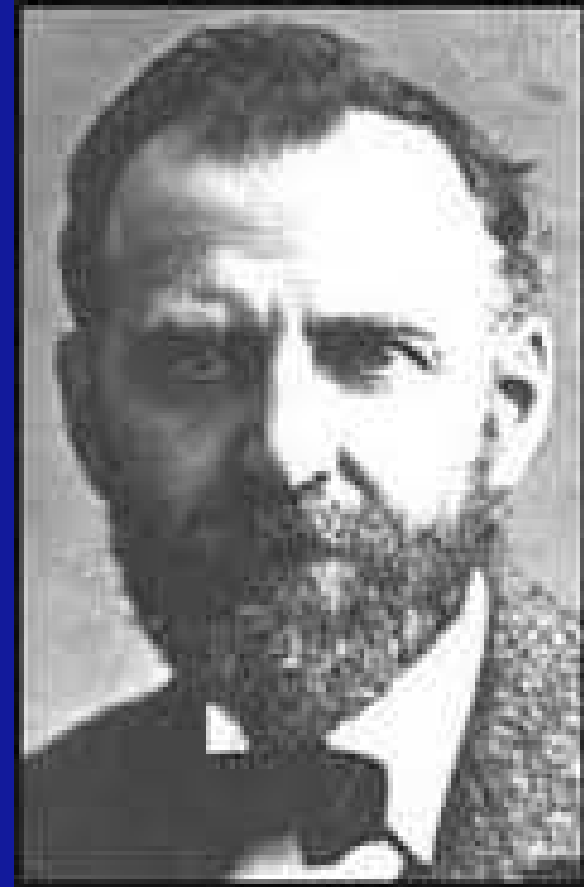
- Josephine Butler (1829-1906)
- Catherine Booth
- Bramwell Booth
- W. T. Stead
- Rebecca Jarrett (1846-1928)
- Eliza Armstrong



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- 400,000 Signatures
- The Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1885
- The trial of W. T. Stead and Bramwell Booth
- The prison sentences

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W. T. Stead in his Prison Uniform



*In memory of Nov 10th 1913.
William T. Stead*

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- Fullness of love that destroys the self and fills the soul with heaven-born generosity
- Consecration--full surrender; and thereby empowerment for ministry
- Social holiness--loving our neighbor; her fear of “Sham Religion”

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Perfect heart: “Be perfect as God is perfect” (Matthew 5:48) (*telos*-- goal; destination; vision)

- Perfect in loyalty to God
- Perfect in obedience
- Perfect in trust

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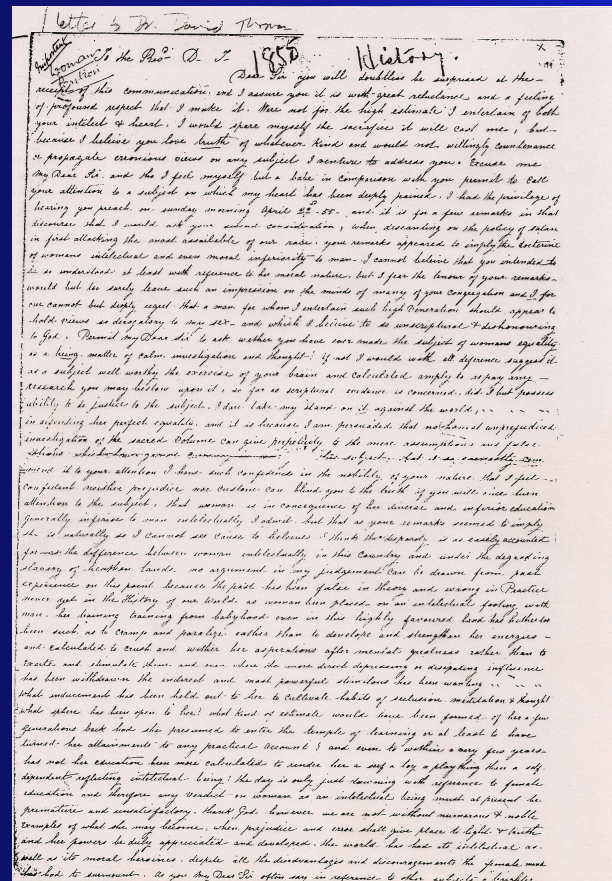
Not Conforming to the World

- The way people dress
- The kind of company people keep in their homes
- Getting things--material riches
- No light reading
- Total abstinence from alcohol
- In general, look down upon the opinions of the world; despise its spirit, maxims and fashions

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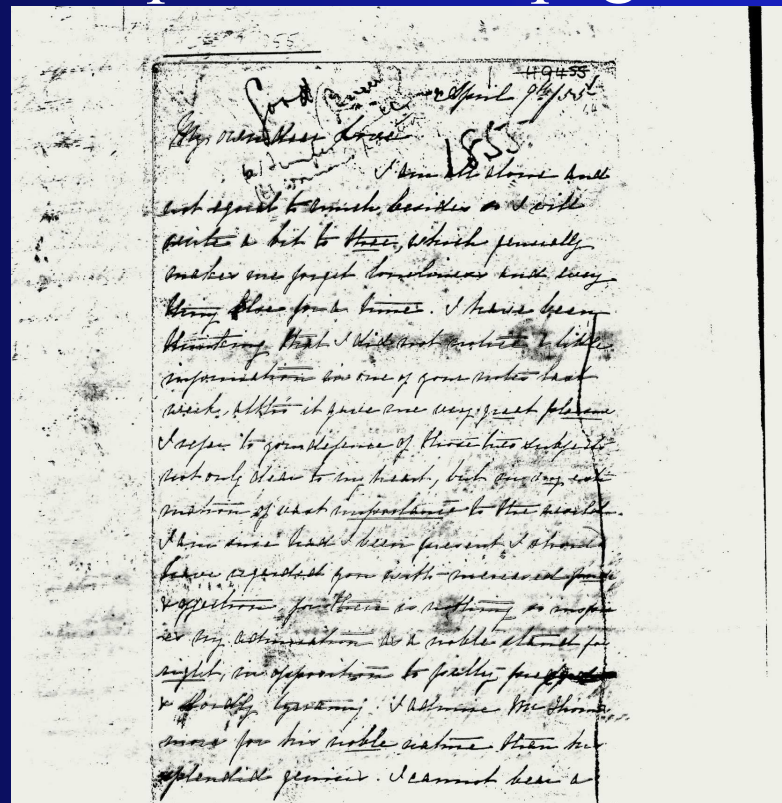
- Renounce everything for which the Spirit reproves you
- Embrace every duty the Spirit lays upon you
- Believe for it; that is, trust Jesus to do it for you

Catherine Mumford's Letter to the Reverend Dr. David Thomas



The Life, Ministry and Theology of Catherine Booth

Catherine Mumford's Letter to William Booth,
April 9, 1855, page 1

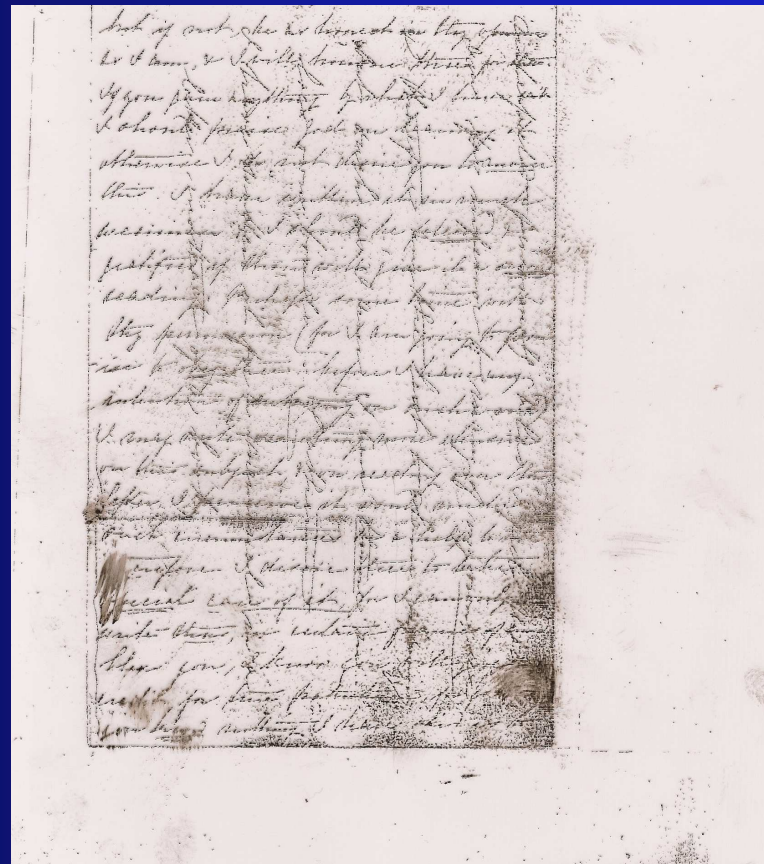


Catherine Mumford's Letter to William Booth, April 9, 1855, page 3

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Women in Ministry

Catherine Mumford's Letter to William Booth,
April 9, 1855, last page



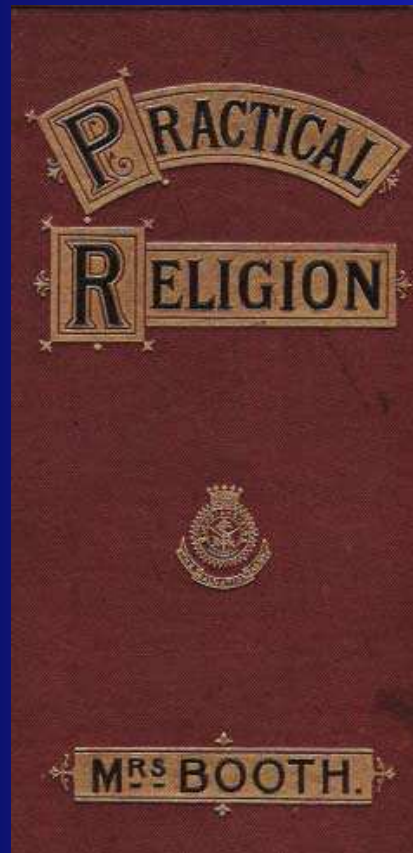
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Phoebe Palmer (1807-1874)



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“Female Ministry; or Women’s Right to Preach the Gospel” (1859)



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“And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy...yea, and on my menservants and my maidservants in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.”

Acts 2:17-18

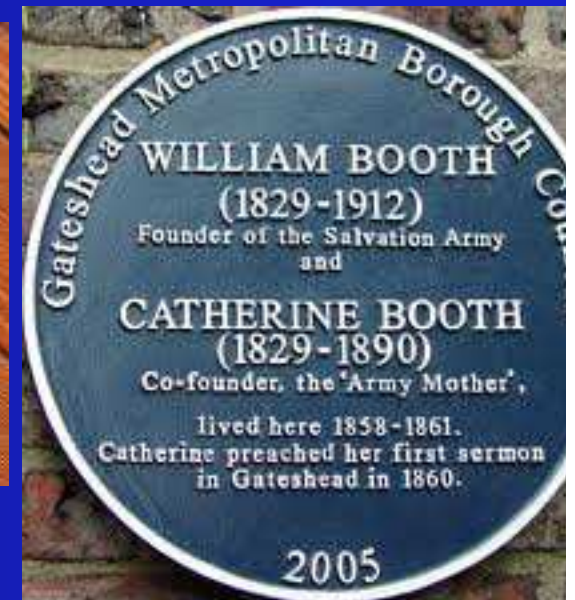
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“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

Galatians 3:28

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Catherine Booth Begins Preaching



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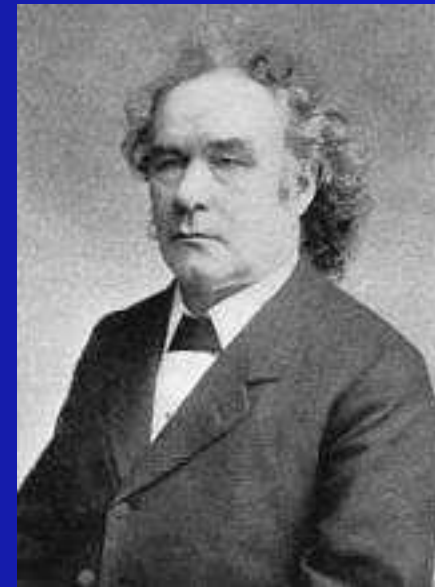
Catherine Booth continues preaching:

The move to London in 1865:

- Had nothing to do with William Booth
- Was in support of a preaching engagement that Catherine had in London

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Catherine Booth's Last Sermon
City Temple, London; Dr. Joseph Parker
June 21, 1888



The Life, Ministry and Theology of Catherine Booth

My Jesus I love Thee, I know Thou are mine,
For Thee all the pleasures of sin I resign;
My gracious Redeemer, my Saviour art thou,
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

The Song Book of The Salvation Army, 357