

The result tended to be an increase in social activity to the diminishing of spiritual activity although this, too, is an oversimplification.

The Dominant figure in the latter part of the 18th century and the earlier part of the Industrial age was William Wilberforce. He was converted to Christianity at age 25 and found that many of the things he had previously taken interest in had new force in Christianity: the two largest items being slavery and the poverty or riches system that was prevalent in much of Europe. In a long religious political career he accomplished the legal end of slavery in the British empire by 1807 and almost saw the final form of its dissolution in 1833...but it came on the heels of his death. He was a member of the Anglican church and part of what was known as the "Clapham" sect, a group of wealthy, sometimes titled, Anglicans who looked for means to support the underprivileged and who sought to lead others of the privileged into a knowledge of Christ (an interesting group foreshadowing Christian businessmen, etc.)./

Wilberforce was followed in this line by William Temple (d. 1944) although Temple did not hold the strict biblical views of Wilberforce. These men were typical of the interest line in social service and perhaps the most notable combination of church and social outreach was that of Booth with the Salvation Army.

The modern rescue mission concept grew from the interest of David Naismith (USA) in 1820 and a proliferation of works that followed. Interest in society and the particularly with the Labor force problems would lead to Rauschenbusch's Brotherhood of the Kingdom in 1892. On the other side of the street would be works like that of Martin Rade (Germany) who promoted an "Association of Christian Friends throughout the world"..an attempt to spread Christianity by and in cultural motifs.

Contrary to what one often hears, the church cannot, in this period, be thought of as immune to the needs of society. It undoubtedly was more involved in this area that were the rulers