



FRANCE : SOUP, SOAP AND SALVATION

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Denise, Armand and Sylvie are three social outcasts whose life has been "changed by God" when they joined the Salvation Army. Who are the people committed to this soul-saving army? Founded in 1878 by a Protestant preacher, the 'army' is a religious institution fighting social injustice brought about by industrial progress. More than a century later, the causes and the message are the same. "Our slogan are the three 's': soup, soap and salvation", says Denise. "You cannot talk to a man who is cold and hungry". Sylvie, a reformed alcoholic, now runs one of the army's homeless centres. "God saved me, it's my duty now to help saving others". Nevertheless, in France the Salvation Army is seen as something from another time.

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