

"Let Your Light so Shine."

There is a whole sermon in the following lines, written by a coloured man, and printed in the Boston Courant...

Visitor Pulpit.

GOD'S WORK UPON MINISTER AND CONVERT.

A Sermon by C. H. Spurgeon.

"But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister..."

I. First, let us notice a work wrought by God upon the minister. "It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe..."

The minister whom God sends is first of all himself subdued, and made to be obedient to the will of his Lord.

It may be that some young man present this morning is undergoing a singularly severe discipline at the hands of the Holy Spirit.

Discipline in our own spiritual life is a part of ministerial education which the chosen of the Lord shall not miss.

sins the shaft has been polished. Another has groaned and wept and oried out in bitter agony, in order that he may know how to speak a word in season to you.

Each of the best looks made by our eminent locksmiths is unique and by itself; and when this is the case, each lock needs its own special key: so it is with human minds, there is a peculiarity about each one.

The next preparation for the Lord's minister was that he should be encouraged. The Lord Jesus said to him, "Rise, and stand upon thy feet."

The uplifting work being done, it remained that Paul should now be made, constituted, and ordained a minister, and to this end he must see the Lord for himself.

Our Lord's appearing to a man operates three ways: first, it makes him willing to be a servant, for that is the meaning of the word "minister."

See you, then, dear friends, that in order to the conversion of those who are not yet saved, the Lord Jesus has been at work upon others, making them fit to be servants and witnesses.

Further, dear friends, the man who is to win a soul for Christ must be continuously instructed of God.

vouchsafes to his servant when he begins his witness, will not suffice him for the whole of his life; he must continue to be taught that he may continue to teach.

Where all this is done, there yet remains somewhat more, namely, that God should constantly preserve his messenger; as he said to Paul: "Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee."

II. And now, secondly, we come to describe the work which is wrought in the hearer when God is saving him. It usually begins by illumination: the Lord sends his servants "to open their eyes."

What a blessing it will be if the Lord has sent me to any of you this day that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Ghost!

The next thing which the minister is made to do is conversion; Paul was sent "to turn them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God."

from the power of darkness into the kingdom of God's dear Son, or, as our text has it, "from the power of Satan unto God."

Somebody says, "Well, I know there is such a fact as conversion, but I do not understand how it can be performed in a minute."

And all this has for its certificate and mark of genuineness these words—"By faith that is in me."

III. Now, I close by the last point, which is a work which must be done by the hearer himself.

Dear hearer, if you would be saved, you must repent. It is not the work of God the Holy Ghost to repent for you, but to lead you to repent.

We cannot give you repentance as a doctor may inject morphia under the skin; it must be your own act and deed, your own feeling and emotion.

you into heaven. No person can be holy unwillingly, or happy unwillingly, or go to heaven unwillingly.

And then to conclude, it is added they must do works meet for repentance; for wherever there is true faith there will be corresponding works.

After all, it turns on this, Will you have Christ or not? Dear hearers, I would like to press that question home upon you.

ALL SORTS.

The Morgan Park Theological Seminary at Chicago has been so fortunate as to secure the gift of the magnificent library of the American Bible Union.

Within a year, about fifty persons have been excluded from Tremont Temple, Boston, Baptist church, "for refusing to help meet the expenses of worship."

Every wide-awake pastor will seek to keep his people alive to the great issues of the time, to elevate and broaden their sympathies, and to prompt them, however poor and weak in numbers, to have some part in all the great benevolent enterprises of the church.

On a recent baptismal occasion, Henry Ward Beecher said that "the baptism of children is nowhere taught in the New Testament," but "was instituted in old church days, by the priests who desired to bring the laity under their sway, and make the superiority of the clergy marked."

It seems incredible that in so eminent a centre as Saratoga, and in the last quarter of the nineteenth century, resolutions should be introduced into a Presbyterian General Assembly forbidding quotations to be made from the Revised New Testament, in the Presbyterian Sunday School Lesson helps, lest it should unsettle the faith of the young in the authority of the Bible!

Twenty-five graduates go out this year from Morgan Park Seminary, Chicago. A short time ago the seminary was under a heavy debt, paying about \$6,000 a year interest, with little capital and no endowment.

Spurgeon said to Dr. H. L. Wailank, editor of the National Baptist: "We occupy a conservative position among our churches. If an accredited Christian of an evangelical church comes among us, and asks the privilege of communing, we admit him three months. Then we say to him, 'You have now had an opportunity to know us and our views; if you choose, we shall be glad to have you join us by baptism; if not, we advise you to join those with whom you are in sympathy.' And three times out of four, they are baptized and join us."

In a communication to the (Richmond) Religious Herald, Dr. Howard Osgood, speaking of the extreme party of the school of the so-called "higher criticism," says: "These men have written many thousands of pages on Isaiah, the seraphic prophet. Can any one point out one single page, or make extracts from all their works, amounting to a single octavo page, showing any interest by the writer in the souls of men and desire for their salvation; or any spark of serious piety, a heart given to God in prayer and praise? I have not been able to find that page, and should be heartily glad to have it pointed out."

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