

Jesus Christ and God the Father." It is certain that he was designated as a missionary. "Now there were at Antioch, in the church that was there, prophets and teachers, Barnabas and Symeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen the foster-brother of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. And as they ministered unto the Lord and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, 'Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.' Then when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them they sent them away. So they being sent forth by the Holy Ghost went down to Seleucia and from thence they sailed to Cyprus." Here then we have the church, under the direction of the Holy Spirit, setting men apart for a special work. As we follow the history of the gospel among the Gentiles, we find Paul on the return trip of the first missionary journey appointing "elders in every church," and in the closing years of his life exhorting Titus to appoint elders in every city of Crete. He warns Timothy: "Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery," from which we gather that ordination was by the eldership. So important did Paul consider the work, and so many were the dangers of unworthy men entering the ministry that we find him advising his son in the faith to "lay hands hastily on no man." To sum up—Paul holds to a personal divine call to the work, in the necessity of the ministry to the life of the church, in publicly accrediting the minister of Christ by the laying on of hands, and in exercising great care as to those who are thus accredited.

We now proceed to consider

III. *The Minister as a Preacher.*—In the letters to Timothy Paul speaks of "the gospel whereunto I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher," or as the words may read, "a herald, a sent one and a teacher." As an apostle he occupied a peculiar relation to the Lord Jesus Christ, standing side by side, though "born out of due time," with the fishermen of Galilee whom Christ chose "to be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, and that they might have authority to cast out devils." For the sake of convenience we shall consider heralding and teaching as two aspects of the same