

uncertainties and difficulties presented from the pulpit will be made the means of discrediting God's Word in the mind of many, and leave them no sound standard for action and cast them upon a sea of doubt, at a time when peculiarly, people need to be built up and strengthened.

#### **Letter No. 4.**

### **THE ATTACKS ON THE BIBLE AND OUR THEOLOGICAL STUDENTS.**

You ask me if I am of opinion that the present attacks on the Bible have anything to do with the decrease in the number of Theological students applying for preparation for the work of the ministry. My view has been very much strengthened in the conclusion during the last twenty years that this cause has much to do with the lack of students. Consider for a moment how different is the position in which the minister is placed to-day, if he accepts the dictum of the higher critic, from that which he occupied standing on the impregnable Rock of the Word of God.

In the latter case he stood boldly before his people as the ambassador of God with his message, "Thus saith the Lord." He had an authoritative position. His was indeed a high and holy calling. He was a co-worker with God. The trumpet gave "no uncertain sound." He is now asked to endeavour to stand on shifting sand. Doubts, difficulties, uncertainties, changeable positions, modern views, are to replace the "I am persuaded" and the "I know assuredly" that made powerful the early preachers; and the doubting teacher sees how hopeless it is, from this region, disseminating his uncertain utterances among his congregation. to pre-