

the two terms, if not expressed in each of them, these two parts of ministerial work, *imparting instruction and exercising government.*

1. *Imparting instruction*, or as it is elsewhere expressed in Scripture, "Laboring in word and doctrine." The subject matter of the instruction must be the word of God, including the whole range of revealed truth,—the entire canon of Scripture, the different parts of it being used as circumstance may demand. The Apostle Paul referring to the breadth of his teaching says, "I have not shunned to declare the whole counsel of God." But here there is great need for observation, reflection and wisdom that the various parts of divine truth may be presented in their proper proportions and adaptations to seasons, circumstances and persons. It contains food suited to different conditions, and medicine as well as food. If unskillfully administered, hurtful instead of wholesome effects may follow. A commonly expressed division of Scripture, and one which is useful to be remembered in preaching, is that of law and gospel, the one being the school master to prepare the soul for the inheritance provided, the other being the inheritance itself with all its spiritual privileges. We have read of two celebrated Scotch ministers who were remarkable for dwelling, the one nearly exclusively on the law, the other largely on the gospel; the one regarding himself as having been furnished at his commission with a quiver full of arrows, the other regarded as having been provided with a cruise full of oil. And as they occupied adjoining parishes this division of labor did not cause any great inconvenience, for as the hearers were wounded by the one they betook themselves for healing to the other. But there are few circumstances in which such an arrangement would be suitable. In general, every minister must endeavor to do the work of both. It may be useful to bear in mind the doctrines of scripture made prominent in the discussions of the church, or rather in the church's contentings for "the faith once delivered unto the Saints;" such as what are technically called the "Five Points," and which in the Calvinistic view of them are regarded by us as distinctive of the true teaching of Scripture. One has said that every sermon ought to contain three R's, meaning that it ought to present the ruined