

the council, looking steadfastly on him, saw his face, as it had been the face of an angel."

Dr. Gordon was, first of all, the *preacher* and *teacher*, and here he was at his best. His pulpit was his throne. He was one of God's modern seers—essentially a prophet in his insight if not his foresight. He magnified his office, and he sanctified it. How reverently he handled the Word of God! To him the Scriptures were the infallible, inspired Divine Oracles. Other truth he believed because he understood it; God's truth he understood because he believed it. Obedience is the organ of spiritual knowledge. He long since sought absolutely to yield himself to the Holy Spirit, and his eyes were anointed with God's own eye salve, that he might see, and his ears, that he might hear; then, what he saw and heard he testified. The only time I ever saw him betray impatience was when he referred to the audacious irreverence of so-called "higher criticism." To him the point of view from which many modern scholars approach the Word of God is one which disqualifies for a true insight into its hidden mysteries. They assume the power of mere intellect and learning to discern spiritual things; they assume the absence of the supernatural element, and so do not recognize it. Their theory is essentially a Procrustean bed, and the Scriptures must be made to fit the theory. He could not calmly regard such profanation; it stirred him to indignation.

His preaching was as far as possible from any mere oratorical performance. He had the graces of the finished speaker, but they were all invested with the higher grace of God's ambassador. He taught with authority, but it was with a derived and deputed authority. Among all the renowned speakers at the Northfield Conference, he was *facile princeps*; and the address he gave there last summer, on the Holy Spirit, has been pronounced by competent judges the most complete ever given, even from that platform of great teachers. There was this supreme charm in his utterances, that, while those who are less taught of the Spirit seek to defend the inspiration and inerrancy of the Word of God, he so exhibited its wonders, so led the way into its mysteries, so unfolded its hidden riches, and showed such articulated and organic unity in all its parts and members, that doubt was disarmed; and the hearer felt shocked that even scholarly "criticism" should presume to use the scientific scalpel upon a body of truth instinct with the living Spirit of God!

Dr. Gordon's *literary work* had reached singular completeness. The three latest products of his pen in a remarkable way carry his literary structure to a crowning point. First, his "Coronation Hymnal"—mark the unique title—as though it at once set the crown on his life work, and marked the hour of his own coronation. Second, his new book, "The Ministry of the Spirit," issued on the day of his death, which, more than any other, expresses his characteristic insight into the truth which God gave him to discern and develop. He was to his generation what Luther was to his—a restorer of paths to dwell in; he brought up from out of the *débris* of