

disputed. Paul, in writing to the Phillipians, says: "I supposed it necessary to send unto you Epaphroditus, my brother and companion in labor, but your apostle"—which is translated *messenger*. Here is a name opposed to absolute authority. He is called *brother, companion* and apostle; and yet Paul sends him; "*I supposed it necessary to send.*" Could Timothy, and Titus, and Epaphroditus be equal in office with Paul, and yet Paul be allowed to dictate to them; to command them doctrines, to direct their mode of conduct, and even determine the *places* in which they should labor? Rainer, is not this just the mode in which the bishops of the present day control their clergy? If those, then, who they pretend are successors of the Apostles were thus under the direction of the Apostles, they were no more apostles than *their clergy* are bishops. If Timothy and Titus were not equal to the Apostles, it cannot be imagined that any are.

Further: That the Apostles have no successors is evident from their being acknowledged by those who pretend to be their successors to be *their* apostles.

What bishop is there, as high as he has ascended, who does not think himself confined to the directions of St. Paul, equally as was Timothy? What bishop is there who does not take the writings of that Apostle as the theme of his exhortation, and enforce what he inculcated?

This is not the way in which we treat *our equals*. Why are not their own assertions *doctrines*, if St. Paul were not superior to them? He wrote his epistles in the character of an apostle; many of them are *prefaced* with *this title*. In governing themselves by the doctrines contained in the epistles, they acknowledge St. Paul to be *their apostle* equally with those to whom he wrote. 'How, then, can they pretend to be his equals!'

Again: That the Apostles have no successors, will appear, if we consider that there is *no place on earth for a diocese* which is *not* occupied.

In Scripture, mankind are divided into two classes, Jews and Gentiles. Each of these has apostles. We know that *the Twelve* were the Apostles of the Jews, the only Apostles; for they shall sit on twelve thrones and judge them. It is