

which His power may flow. But while they depend on the Divine Agency, they know that God honors the wise adaptation of means to ends. Hence they press into their service all instrumentalities. The singing, preaching, prayer; the labor and co-operation of ministers and churches; the arrangements for dealing personally with inquiring souls; the personal testimony of the saved; and the shrewd sense and practical wisdom with which all these elements are arranged with a view to impressiveness and immediate results, are means which, in their hands, God has equally honored and blessed. The heat, light and fructifying power are in the sun; therefore give the glory to the sun. But the burning-glass also is important; and we are responsible for the degree of perfection attained in its construction, and for the angle at which we hold it to the light.

In most cases a great part of the work, in connection with these services, will presumably fall on the pastor of the congregation. In every case, if the richest blessings are to be secured for himself and flock, he must be deeply interested in their success. If the services are in connection with a single congregation, the pastor, with his session, is the moving spirit, both in originating and conducting them. Whatever outside assistance is secured has his cordial sanction and approval; and his earnest and only desire is for fruit.

But I have no objection to the "Evangelist," as a practically new element in our ministerial force. I assume, however, that the name indicates, not a new order in the church, but a special function of the ministerial office. Only good can result from our fixed batteries being supplemented by a flying artillery. In the carrying on of these services, such specialists—ministers of acknowledged piety, wisdom, and consecrated gifts—may largely contribute to the highest results. They may greatly assist and strengthen overwrought pastors in seasons of special effort of spiritual awakening or of revival power. Men whose evangelistic labors God has richly blessed should be recognized as having a special mission. A pastor, who, with lofty purposes, welcomes such an ally, need have no ear that his own influence should be weakened. He will thus enhance his claim upon the gratitude of his flock; and his strengthened claims will find a suitable response in their deepened affections.

The union of different denominations in a series of evangelistic