

Apostle's words, "*them that hear thee.*" "Faith cometh by hearing," not by seeing; not by things attractive to sight, but by the *expressed*, uttered testimony of God *heard*,—heard under a faithful, heartfelt exposition of truth, "the truth as it is in Jesus." It is thus by hearing that faith is wrought in the soul, the faith that justifies, and in the enjoyment of which we have peace with God, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

It will not be supposed, I hope, that as regards *doctrine*, I mean any other than that which is "according to godliness," and which with sanctifying influence and hallowing effect "drops as the rain, distils as the dew, as the small rain on the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass." Doctrine without devotion, faith without works, the Episcopal office without qualifications for the Episcopate, is the very revolution of Order and of ordinances divine, an offence to God. Let the mere professor tremble; let the man, offered the acceptance of the Episcopate, shudder, unless in his conscience he believes, or at least, with good conscience, humbly hopes, that his attainments, moral, intellectual and physical, fit him for the position, and that he is thereunto religiously and rightly called.

Under the responsibilities that rest upon me on this occasion, it is incumbent on me to say something of the position, and the characteristics requisite to the Episcopal office. But this I shall not express in language of my own, but in that which is given us in the dictation of the Spirit of God. I shall therefore cite the portion of Scripture appointed as the Epistle to be read at the consecration of Bishops:—

"This is a true saying, 'If a man desire the office of a Bishop, he desireth a good work.' A Bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre, but patient, not a brawler, not covetous, one that ruleth his own house well, having his children in subjection with all gravity—for if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the Church of God?—not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride, he fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover, he must have a good report of them that are without, lest he fall into reproach, and the snare of the devil."

Were I to use words of my own on this subject, or to add anything to what is thus set forth, I would humbly say, A Bishop should be firm, yet not arbitrary or unbending; dignified, but not repulsive; high-minded, yet condescending; reflecting, yet decisive; easy of access, but of bearing that forbids over-familiarity of approach; observant, but not prying; a discernor of character, of administrative ability, generous in disposition, a rewarder of good men, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.