

And do not many pastors NEED just such help. The question is sometimes raised, Why call in others to do what the minister himself should do? But where has he the time or the energy to expend in special efforts? He is taxed to the utmost of his strength. His ordinary duties press upon him from all sides, he cannot escape them. To enter upon these *extra duties*, he must neglect the ordinary, or attempting both, break down in health, and the Church suffer loss. The word has been faithfully preached, and most likely not without evidences of God's blessing. Christ's people are united, and praying for a special outpouring of the Spirit. There is the general assurance that God will open the windows of heaven and pour out a large blessing. And just what is needed at this juncture is a co-worker of sound judgment, clear Gospel views, earnest spirit, and strong faith, who shall come and thrust the sickle into the harvest that is awaiting the reaper.

In other places the Church is feeble and unable to contend with the hosts of her adversaries. Few are qualified to assist in the meetings. The pastor has to labor alone, and in the desolation and bitterness of his heart, he has often to cry out, "By whom shall Jacob arise, for he is small?" The Evangelist comes to strengthen his hands. His methods are new, his manner is winning. He gains the sympathy and confidence of the people. A deep religious impression is produced, and there are mighty displays of Divine power in the awakening and conversion of souls.

And besides this need on the part of pastors and churches, there is the cry of the perishing in every community, whom the ordinary means of grace have failed to reach. These special laborers come with a mission to the people, and that a mission of salvation. The Holy Spirit is abroad in his convicting power, and numbers of the careless and Christless are reached and saved.

These are some of the reasons that convince us that Christ, in the Administration of His Church, has a place for the office of the Evangelist; and if so, ought not some provision to be made for those who are willing to enter this branch of the Christian ministry? Meanwhile, let every man who is called of God to the work of the ministry, proclaim a *present salvation*, and his labors will be crowned with success. Let his cry to God be—*save now!* Let the Spirit of the Lord dwell mightily in his heart, and let him have faith in the Almighty promises of Jesus, and under every sermon souls will be born into the Kingdom of God. Fighting with the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, the victory will be ours, and great shall be the spoil.

THE BIRD ON THE MAST.—"A sailing vessel was driven before the hurricane—a white bird suddenly descended on the mast: the hearts of the crew were cheered,—hope dawned! . . . Such consolation *may* be always mine! One bright, holy, faithful thought is *my* dove upon the mast. However sadly I toss over the waves of this troublesome weary world, that gentle Bird of Paradise revives and strengthens me. It tells me that the storm will soon be over and gone; and the green land, with the singing of the birds, is come."—*Wilmott*.