

error. While natural adaptability and educational preparation for the Christian ministry are most valuable and desirable, underlying all these there must be the fundamental qualifications that the man has been called of God to be God's messenger. Never let us forget these inspired words, "Not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble are called."

Just look at these words:—"And He gave some apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry." The genuine preacher is an herald authorized by the Divine Monarch, and conscious of his official credentials, he must feel "necessity is laid upon me, yea, woe is unto me if I preach not the gospel."

Without this deeply rooted consciousness of possessing the Divine commission, that man who intrudes himself into the ministry because, forsooth, his personal tastes and talents draw him into it, will prove himself a mere pious caterer to popular religious tastes—a theological character seeking popularity and pay.

The true God-commissioned preacher must make his royal Master's proclamation in his royal Master's words. It needs no subtle argument to demonstrate that it is the herald's first duty to repeat and to enforce the *exact phraseology* of the message he bears from the government he represents. In so far as he carelessly or deliberately mistakes or misinterprets that message, he belies his official duty—he acts the traitor. On no subject is holy Scripture more emphatic than on this one point. Who that has read the Bible but has observed how often such language as the following occurs:—"Hear the word of the Lord." "Thus saith the Lord." "To whom the word of the Lord came." "The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord." "Whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak." "Go speak." "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you." "The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath My word, let him speak My word faithfully."

Coming to the New Testament, nothing is more solemnly impressive than such statements as these uttered by Jesus Christ:—"The word that I have spoken, the same shall judge