

ume lessons of wisdom which philology could not unfold. So we find that what we obtain from Christianity is not sensuous but ideal knowledge, that the great principles of religion are concealed from the eye, and can only be grasped by the spirit of investigation. To the spirit of honest enquiry, new and brightening fields are presented, boundless as creation, unlimited as eternity and glorious as God himself.

The position of delivering the message of the Lord to the people, that the preacher holds, is frequently looked upon and often spoken of as the greatest honor that can be bestowed upon man. But as great as the office is from its own nature, every preacher will sink it to his own level. The ministers of to-day are supposed to be literary, and many calls are made upon their ability in this line, so that the pulpit appears to be a necessary nuisance; but the preacher should and must feel an attachment to the pulpit and not consider it an unwelcome appendage. If he would elevate his position much depends on his preparation, for if he enters the pulpit expecting a miraculous supply of knowledge, he will be disappointed. He must be in readiness to attack evil in all its strongholds, and for this duty, what is more necessary to him than psychology? Guilt is not infrequently inclosed within too strong a fortress to be affected by the gentle tap of the gloved hand. It needs the strong blows of logic, it needs the heavy strokes of the reasoning powers to dislodge the enemy, but how can even these be effective without a knowledge of the workings of the mind. In the delivery of the message it is impossible to be too psychological. There is no danger of being too intimately acquainted with the principles which govern the human soul. Of course it is admitted that there is such a thing as being spoiled by mental science, when one puts a simple truth in the form of an obscure proposition, but this is the abuse not the use of this science. The science of the mind gives a preacher unbounded influence; let him be acquainted with his hearers, their habit of thought and action, their errors and their prejudices, and he knows exactly how to approach them, so that he will not offend the ear of the most sensitive, or injure the pet ideas of the most fanatical.

The pulpit imperatively demands the highest efforts of the human mind, and there is no place where the whole of a man's powers may be as advantageously employed. His reasoning powers, his imagination, his memory, his acquaintance with human nature, his mastery over men's passions and wills are all here had in requisition: in other and stronger