

THE HOMILETIC REVIEW.

VOL. XXIX.—JUNE, 1895.—No. 6.

REVIEW SECTION.

I.—THE PREACHER AND THE PREACHING FOR THE PRESENT CRISIS.*

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THE PREACHER'S PRESENT COMMISSION.

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Christians at Corinth: "For after that, in the wisdom of God, the world by wisdom knew not God; it pleased God by the foolishness of *preaching* to save them that believe." "Preaching" is, therefore, the one supreme requirement of this lost world; and the "preacher" is thus lifted to the supreme place of initiative, leadership, dignity, and responsibility in the work of Christ for the lost world. The preacher's position and work, always peculiarly important, have assumed vastly more of importance in the present crisis of the enterprise of the Church in carrying out the great commission. The preacher who at all takes in the situation can hardly help asking, in view of this crisis, such questions as the following:

What is the present immediate requirement that the great commission makes of me as a preacher?

What is the message that must constitute the burden of my preaching in order to meet that requirement?

What is the special furnishing that will best fit me for the effective delivery of that message?

What must be the aim and what the characteristics of the preaching that will meet the demands of the times and the crisis in saving men and the world?

What must be my character as pastor and what the character of my work of pastoral oversight and direction in order that I may do what needs to be done for those saved through preaching?

It is the purpose, in a series of papers, to make some suggestions toward the answering of these questions. Upon a subject so broad in

*The subject treated in this series of articles will be published in book form greatly extended so as to cover the vital current topics connected with it. The series copyrighted.