

He may have all requisite gifts and qualifications,—he may be truly a man of God, and have an earnest, untiring love for souls, and zeal in his work,—he may be an able and faithful expounder and preacher of the Word,—he may carefully seek and humbly rely upon the grace of God for direction and for strength;—but there is something yet wanting to success,—there is the conviction on your part, that the work is essentially your work—a work to be wrought in you as well as for you, and greatly by our own instrumentality.

Solemn indeed is the relation formed this day, between the pastor of your choice and you,—but remember that his success and your profiting will depend much, under God, upon yourselves. He has already been addressed very solemnly upon the duties and responsibilities of his office. It now devolves upon me, my dear brethren, to endeavor to bring before you some of your duties and responsibilities in regard to what is your great life work—the salvation of your souls—in which, while your pastor labors for you, you must, in order to its successful accomplishment, be fellow-workers together with him.

In the first place, it is your duty to render him all due honor in the Lord. In respecting him, you show respect to the office he holds and the commission he bears, as an ambassador for Christ, with a message for your souls. The ministry of the Gospel is an ordinance of the Lord. He hath appointed it as the great means of diffusing the knowledge of the Gospel, for the salvation of our guilty and perishing race, through the preaching of the Word, accompanied by the effectual application of it to the minds and hearts of men, by the Holy Spirit.

Ministers of the Gospel, although not inheriting the miraculous gifts of the Apostles, still hold the high commission which our Lord gave to them, to preach the Gospel to every creature; and, arduous as are their duties, and deep as is their responsibility, they are not sent forth at their own charges. They have the Lord's promise, if they are indeed called and commissioned by Him, "Be-

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