

"Samuel, Elijah and Elisha in the Old Testament days; Philip, Timothy and Apollos of the New Testament." Time permits a glance at only one of these Saints of old. *Ex uno disce omnes.*

What parallel is there between the times and work of Elijah and those of the modern Evangelist? Have all our clergymen become priests of Baal, or representatives of "the formalism and deadness of an unspiritual or time-serving clergy?" Is there among our people but a remnant of a few thousands, who have not bowed the knee to the mammon of unrighteousness or the false God? Despite the great "multitude of women who publish" the word, is there among us a Jezebel, breathing out death and destruction to the Lord's prophets and people? Is our beloved "school of the prophets" also smitten by the much lamented "deadness, formalism and wordliness?" Should it be evangelized, or, if past hope, reformed out of existence and a better substituted by the alleged "spirit-filled" successors of Elijah?

While all admit that we Presbyterians are not what we ought to be, yet some people have fondly believed that within the bounds of our Synod, among clergy and laity, there is a good deal of Christian vitality, a considerable practical interest in missions, and a conscientious endeavor to discharge the duties pertaining to every department of Christian life. But if Mr. Dustan's parallel holds good, this belief is all a delusion. We need a reform, a revolution even. And this can be effected only by the Evangelist. No faithful ones among the ordained shepherds, to lead the flock away from the dry and barren wastes where they are starving, to the "green pastures" and "beside the still waters," so bountifully provided by the Good Shepherd! No, not one. None of our pastors "enter in by the door," they all "climb up some other way." No hope within the Church organization. Let us call in outsiders who are not "hirelings," whose voice "the sheep know," to lead us in and out to find pasture. Alas! for the Church, if it is reduced to this helpless condition. If, instead of seeking outside help, we were all to reiterate the prayer of Elisha, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" till happily we find Him, a way would be opened across this Jordan of difficulty, which confronts those who have apparently lost faith in the Church and its ministers.