

Each minister and elder is an office bearer for the whole church, as well as for the local church. Hence our system broadens our sympathies. It lifts us out of our localism and attaches us to the Church of Christ as a whole. Our system has also an admirable adaptability to every condition of human society. It tends to bind together the different ranks and orders of society. For in all its courts we may find employer and employed, master and servant, rich and poor sitting on terms of equality. "It is a fair, democratic, representative form of government." It preserves the simplicity and dignity of divine worship, alike in the simplest meeting house, and in the most splendid churches.

Dr. Dods, Professor in Free Church College, Edinburgh, points out two characteristics of Presbyterianism that are fundamental, and which commend our church order. "First—Its adoption of the laity into the government of the church. It does not retain the government of the church in the hands of a hierarchy or priesthood, separated by a great gulf from the laity. It acknowledges and gives its full force to the truth that the people form the church, that the people are the church, and ought to govern and regulate their own affairs." The second feature is, the maintaining of a real and spiritual form of worship instead of a symbolical form, as was the form employed in the temple. Dr. Dods emphasizes this point as one of great importance to the church in this day. "It is a mistake therefore," he adds, "to endeavour, as a large section of our own community is endeavoring, to mix up these two distinct kinds of worship, to revive symbolism, to enlist the services of an army of dresses, priests, and even sacrifices, after He has come, who was the end of symbolism, and brought in the eternal realities. It is the plain unsymbolic simple and free worship of the synagogue, which the apostles adopted

and n
not co
thousa

In
points
may be
on the
called
the rea
form o
govern
as exer
enlarge
Apostle
howeve
church
as a qu
Our ch
against
is, a pu
our chu
well tha
are, but
of worsh
days wh
divine a

The
Presbyte
to be pr
the cour
That typ