

A Sermon  
from  
2 Cor. i. 1, 20

Now then we are ambassadors  
for Christ as though God did  
beseech you by us, we pray  
you in Christ's stead, be ye  
reconciled to God.

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Of all the offices & functions  
with which a man can be entrusted  
none are more solemn & responsible  
than those of a minister of the Gospel,  
for he has to do with things most  
sacred, and has to give an account  
of his stewardship as regards immortal  
souls. He stands in a most important  
relation to the people to whom he is sent  
and carries a message fraught with

the most momentous consequences both for  
time & eternity. Well might he exclaim  
with the Apostle: "Who is sufficient  
for these things?" It is therefore of the  
first importance that we should be ~~certain~~  
sure of being divinely called to the sacred  
Office, and able to say with St Paul:  
"not by the will of man, but by the will of  
God" I am set apart to the Ministry of  
the Gospel. [You will call to mind, brethren,  
that such is the intention of our Church,  
brought home, in a solemn manner  
to all who seek to enter the Ministry at  
our Ordination Service, when we have  
to answer questions like these: Do you  
trust that you are inwardly moved by  
the H. Ghost to take upon you this Office  
& Ministration? Or do you think in  
your heart that you be truly called  
according to the will of our Lord Jesus  
Christ?"] Then, if there assured of  
our call to the Ministry, though sensible  
of our own insufficiency, we may yet

Take courage & say with the Apostle:  
"But our sufficiency is of God." When  
this question is settled in our hearts  
& consciences, then nothing need make  
us afraid, no weakness of ours need  
hinder us to act as Christ's am-  
bassadors & to appear with all con-  
fidence & boldness to our hearers,  
to be recommended to God. Nor need we  
~~at any time~~ be disheartened, even  
though our message may not at once be  
received & even our preaching will  
always produce the fruit we might  
desire. We may confidently trust  
that the seed sown will in due time  
spring up & that God's word shall  
not return void. "Paul may plant  
& Apollos water, but God alone can  
give the increase." It is well to be  
faithful, to attend on our ministry  
with all diligence & prayer, to preach  
the word in season & out of season; we  
need not despair then of the issue, a  
blessing will sooner or later accompany

our labors. The Lord will outfarake  
his own work. Be the harvest small or  
great, even a few souls saved will be  
a sufficient reward to make us rejoice  
at the day of Christ's appearing.

It is with this trust, with this confident  
hope dear brethren, that I desire to appear  
to you this day, in Christ's stead: as one  
~~of his messengers, or as a laborer,~~ <sup>called to the ministry of the gospel,</sup> I would  
beseech you one & all to inquire,  
whether you have obeyed the call  
to be reconciled to God, and if yet  
in doubt, if undecided hitherto, let me  
exhort each not to delay their resolu-  
tion ~~with God~~, not to receive any  
longer God's grace in vain. Remember  
the voice I preached to you ~~is still~~,  
from time to time is a message from  
on high & he who disregards or despises  
our message despises him who sends.  
But we proceed to a more direct inquiry  
into the import of our text, and shall  
agreeably to it consider <sup>omitted to men</sup>

- I, The sacred & responsible office of  
Christ's ministers and why it is com-
- II, The special & maternal message

which they have to believe. and in undesigning  
we shall offer

III, A few remarks for practical application.

And may God grant unto us  
ministers & hearers a due appreciation  
of our mutual relation & our responsi-  
bility towards him, and render our mutual  
meditation instructive & edifying to  
us all.

I, In considering the sacred & responsible  
office of Christ's minister, I would  
in the first place observe that God <sup>and why it</sup>  
might, without doubt accomplish <sup>is committed</sup>  
all his works & designs by his own <sup>to men?</sup>  
sovereign will & omnipotent power,  
by his word of command, without our  
aid. Nevertheless we know, that he  
carries on many of his gracious opera-  
tions by various instruments & means,  
either by human or angelic agency,  
~~or through some established Law~~  
~~both moral & physical.~~ To a reflect-  
ing mind it becomes evident that God

wile have his intellectual creatures, &  
especially man made in his own image,  
participate & aid in his designs as  
a fellow worker & then train him for his  
own glory. Of angels we are distinctly  
told in the Scriptures that they are ministr-  
ing spirits ministering to men, the heirs  
of salvation, the guardians of those that  
fear & love God. They stand before God  
~~awaiting his commands~~ waiting to fulfil  
his commands. We read of them as mes-  
sengers from on high to some of God's chosen  
servants & further that they conducted  
the spirits of just men into the bosom of  
the Saviour, as for instance Lazarus in  
Abraham's bosom. We might imagine ac-  
cordingly, that there were celestial spirits,  
to instruct guide & enlighten sinful men  
in the way to life everlasting. But it was  
reserved for men, for fellow sinners to be  
mainly instrumental of bringing evil sinners  
into the way of righteousness. The ministry  
of the word, the preaching of the Gospel  
admonition & warning are committed  
to human agents. Angels were sent

1 were daily  
qualified

in order to announce to men Christ's coming  
in the flesh, but John the Baptist's  
task was to prepare the way before him, by  
the preaching of repentance. An angel  
was sent from heaven with a precious  
message to Coraelius; but he was ~~instructed~~  
~~to send for Peter~~ directed to search for  
Peter ~~that he might~~ be instructed in  
the way of salvation. The glorious message is entrusted  
~~here to be delivered by~~ ~~himself~~ <sup>to him</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~way~~ <sup>way</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~salvation~~ <sup>salvation</sup>.  
~~Exhortation~~. Men of like passions, en-  
compassed with infirmities, earthly vessels,  
<sup>generally</sup> ~~often~~ weak & frail are chosen & appointed  
to act as messengers of God, as amba-  
sadors for Christ. You might ask, Oathen,  
why is this? why not ~~send~~ have perfect  
& sinless beings to lead men to holiness &  
purity of living? We might simply answer  
& content ourselves by saying, God wills  
it so that one man should guide &  
teach another. But a little reflection  
will show us some reasons why God  
has so ordained it. To elucidate these  
reasons, we may put ourselves questions

& ask: Why did not God redeem man  
by some other method or means than  
by the giving of his Son? And why did  
his only begotten Son take our nature,  
our flesh & blood on himself? Could he  
not in some other way have wrought out  
our redemption, ~~or pleasure~~ <sup>& deliverance</sup> ~~the pleasure~~  
God? ~~to bring about the same result~~  
~~with an offering of his Son?~~ Among various  
reasons which may be assigned, the Apostle  
in his Epistle to the Hebrews, gives a very  
pithy & significant reason which will  
serve our purpose. St Paul reasons thus:  
For in that he himself has suffered, being  
tempted, he is able to succor them that  
are tempted? And again we have not an  
high Priest which can not be touched with  
the feeling of our infirmities, but was in  
all points tempted, like as we are, yet  
without sin. Accordingly it is Christ's  
human nature, which preeminently fitted  
him to be our merciful sympathizing  
high Priest. He can enter fully & exper-  
imentally into man's condition, because  
himself sojourned on earth in human flesh.

Assuredly, his ~~compassion~~ <sup>sympathies</sup> would thus be engaged in our  
behalf. Now in like manner, we may  
assert, that men once themselves erring  
sinners, and still liable to failings &  
temptations, can feel for those who err  
& go astray, <sup>or are</sup> struggling with the ~~temptations~~ <sup>infirmities</sup> of human  
~~nature~~ <sup>liability to fall</sup>. They can pity others  
from their own past & present experience.  
Men once dead in trespasses & sin, but  
now alive in Christ, are best capable  
of recommending to ~~others~~ <sup>each</sup> who  
seek for <sup>grace</sup> peace & peace, how to ob-  
tain <sup>grace</sup> salvation & the regenerating power  
of God's H. Spirit. If we are living  
examples of God's converting grace, <sup>as we are able to</sup>  
& ~~the operation of the Holy Spirit~~ <sup>(b)</sup>, we  
can bear an effectual & convincing  
testimony to others, for their guidance &  
comfort. Whatever angels may be able  
to do, they could not ~~do so~~ <sup>in the same manner</sup>  
~~as we~~ bear testimony from their own  
experience. We can generally speak  
of things which we practically know,  
of things which we have seen felt & tasted.

This I repeat is a strong & urgent reason  
why you employ men rather than angels  
to preach the Gospel to every sinner & to  
build up the faith of those who have em-  
braced Christ. The Son of God did not  
take upon him the nature of angels, but  
the nature of men, and consequently our  
union with Christ by a living faith, and  
~~our high calling & hope~~ <sup>our high calling & hope</sup> to be joint heirs with him  
are calculated to fit & enable us to  
be fellow workers with him.

But besides you will it both father's  
our glory & our spiritual ~~good~~ growth  
& improvement, that we should all  
have some work to do to exercise &  
exemplify our faith & patience, our  
love & pity, our confidence & hope,  
~~following Christ's example.~~

As a good & wise parent will train a  
child, not only for his own benefit, but  
for the good of others, for well doing, ~~to attain~~  
~~& win those in need & distress,~~ will af-  
ford the child at times opportunities to  
be the dispenser of some gifts & benefits,  
so you will teach us, by various calls,  
of duty to learn to do good, benevolence

as to those  
in need

<sup>rule</sup>  
Marked given us all was with to us, to  
prove our genuine membership with his  
spiritual body, the Church. Each has  
some ability, some talent wherewith to  
serve him & glorify his name. But from  
the diversity of gifts it follows that there  
must be different functions & ministrations.

The order & rule of the Church, the union  
& certification of all its members demand  
it that there should be some appointment  
to higher ~~office~~ <sup>more sacred offices</sup> & ministrations.

Hence the great Head of the Church from  
from the beginning set, or appointed,  
some Apostles, prophets, evangelists, teachers  
and others for the general good.

When Christ sent his Apostles to preach  
the Gospel to all nations, he added the  
encouraging promise, And lo I am with  
you even unto the end of the world.  
It would not this that there should be  
a succession of faithful witnesses of the  
Gospel, the ministry of the word should  
never cease. If some should intrude  
into the Church without a due call  
& preach false doctrine, the Lord will

the true  
Church of  
Christ will  
unlearn  
to be serious

raise others who are faithful. If one  
<sup>visible</sup> Church should en, the Lord will find  
~~instrument, to raise & revive raised & raise~~  
~~a body of men to form a new & genuine~~  
~~& powerful Church~~. Then shall men be  
roaring messengers of peace & ambassador  
for Christ. An ambassador you  
are aware holds a most respectable office  
his duties are generally of weighty nature.  
He acts not in his own name <sup>for</sup> in his own  
authority, but in the name of the ruler  
~~& for~~ whom he represents, or the governor  
& nation for whom he is commissioned.  
~~to act~~. Then it is ~~a must be~~ or ought  
to be with those who act in Christ's behalf  
& for the benefit of his Church. We can  
celebrate no other message than that which  
is entrusted to us, which is the pure Gospel  
of Christ, the great & fundamental truths  
of God's word. We cannot preach merely  
to please men, to attract itching ears &  
to obtain human applause, by a display  
of human wisdom, or, that kind of eloquence  
& elegance of speech which may be admired  
by the generality of men, ~~often~~ it may be said  
who care little about true religion & ~~genuine~~

And this  
will  
concern  
to the  
second  
part of  
our Sermon  
on to the  
question:  
What, then, is —

spiritual religion, or goodness of living.  
What men can fairly & reasonably require  
of us is ~~that we should~~ <sup>that we should</sup> carry over in-  
cumbent on their hands, and a clear intel-  
ligent & convincing statement of Gospel  
truth on the other, ~~to reach men's hearts~~  
& ~~conscience~~ followed by a unswerving life.

II) But we proceed to the second part of  
our text, viz: The special & mechanical  
message which we have to deliver?

It is the message of reconciliation, which implies  
~~we must all confess our sins & turn to~~  
~~appeal to men, as authorized & com-~~  
~~missioned from on high to be reconciled~~  
to God. Mark the Apostle's language  
As though you did beseech you  
by us, we pray you in Christ's stead  
be ye reconciled to God. "We are  
to speak

God's grace  
Offer of  
pardon &  
man's need  
of repentance  
We must  
appeal  
with con-  
fident  
assurance

As I have ~~more or less~~ <sup>hastily</sup> anticipated the  
message in its essential points, I may  
be brief ~~in what I shall say~~ <sup>in what I shall say</sup>  
Mark then ~~in the first place~~ <sup>in the first place</sup> dear brethren, in  
the first place, we are to use entreaty, we  
are to appeal to you, in urgent season,

For you  
was in  
Christ,  
reconciling  
the world  
unto him-  
self. A  
surprise  
that He

language with feeling hearts, prompted by the  
consuming love of Christ, by love & pity for  
perishing sinners for whom Christ has died.  
He is reconciled to you & for you is re-  
conciled to you. He is ready & willing  
to <sup>forgive & accept you</sup> ~~reconcile you~~. He is come in his heart to  
all you could desire & expect to  
~~forgive your sins & to blot out your~~  
transgressions. For the great sin bearer  
even Jesus Christ, both God & man, has  
made an all sufficient atonement, satis-  
faction & oblation for the sins of the world.  
God has loved & chosen us in his only  
begotten Son Christ Jesus, if we only  
on our part are ready to respond to his love.  
The love of the Father is eternal & un-  
changeable, he never ceases to <sup>generously call</sup> ~~love~~ <sup>pity</sup> ~~have~~ <sup>to vindicate his</sup> ~~perishing~~  
sinners. True his justice & holiness ~~are~~  
~~manifested~~ a sacrifice, <sup>was a sacrifice</sup> ~~but not~~  
but himself delivered up his Son for  
our offences & raised him again for our  
justification. God's anger against sin  
against man's rebellion was mingled  
with the love of a Father towards us.

erring oblation. he would not condemn the man, if  
~~him~~, ~~not to condemn the man but to~~ <sup>any means</sup> ~~claim him to bring him back to him~~ <sup>he can</sup>  
self. He is ready to embrace the prodigal  
son; ~~he will not~~ The greatest of sinners will be pardoned  
if he will but return untired & penitent  
confessing his sins & seeking for ~~mercy~~ <sup>mercy</sup>.  
We may therefore speak with full as-  
surance, with all the confidence that

God's love & mercy inspire to encourage all who  
~~the repenting sinner to draw near unto~~ <sup>as contrite & believing sinners & accept</sup>  
God & ~~seek for~~ <sup>that</sup> salvation  
which is truly & abundantly offered.  
Repentance honors God & faith honors  
our Lord Jesus Christ on the <sup>chief</sup> ~~cross~~  
& eternal conditions of <sup>our</sup> ~~our~~ <sup>repentance</sup>  
to God. It is no more than just & rea-  
sonable that men should know &  
feel & confess, that they have offended,  
their God & Maker & should <sup>therefore</sup> ~~eternally~~  
grieve & weep & sorrow for their sin-  
fulness & guilt. Nor can sorrow for  
sin & repentance be vain, unless they  
are followed by a amendment of life.  
But in as much as an amendment will  
~~not~~ & amendment of life will not take  
~~away~~ <sup>away</sup> ~~from~~ <sup>from</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~heart~~ <sup>heart</sup> ~~transgression~~ <sup>transgression</sup>

all who  
feel their  
need of  
mercy &  
aid from  
on high

broken God,  
just & holy  
law &  
rebellion  
against

are to believe as well as to repeat.  
we ~~are~~ ~~are~~ ~~directed~~ ~~for~~ ~~comfort~~ ~~to~~ ~~Christ~~. It is by faith in ~~Christ~~ that God  
will accept us & look upon us as re-  
conciled. <sup>to himself</sup> Observe then, brethren the con-  
ditions of your pardon & reconciliation are  
plain & easy. It is not as if you had to  
~~confront~~ ~~an~~ ~~unrelenting~~ ~~an~~ ~~angry~~ ~~God~~,  
but your hearts & minds are to be  
~~drawn~~ ~~drawn~~ ~~to~~ ~~him~~ in love gratitude & with  
the assurance of children. God has sought  
you & is daily seeking you, if but  
you will seek him. ~~He will be~~ ~~with~~ ~~you~~  
~~is~~ ~~made~~ ~~with~~ ~~you~~. He will <sup>visit</sup> ~~look~~ ~~upon~~ ~~you~~  
not as you are in yourself, but as you  
are in his son Jesus Christ. Let me then  
<sup>you</sup> ~~say~~ that some of you, dear brethren, are  
reconciled by repentance & faith I ~~trust~~ <sup>confidently</sup> ~~believe~~,  
but I must fear there are others who have  
been long since & bidden hitherto, and  
are still strangers to <sup>their</sup> ~~repentance~~ ~~strangers~~  
to a living faith & grace I wish. Let  
me beseech & exhort them, to be re-  
conciled to him who yearns over his erring  
children & will not that they should perish.  
Why neglect God's gracious offer, why reject  
or slight a salvation so great, so free, so

We have not  
the means  
unto you  
the whole  
world of  
God, in  
your  
salvation

you have  
no room  
for your  
been in the  
& salvation  
again & join  
the human  
of Christ  
been presented to you

complete resting on the ~~grace~~ of love of God  
the Father, the mediation of his Son &  
the gracious operations of the H. Spirit  
who dwells with you to make you his  
abode his temple, his vessels of grace.

III, In conclusion, let me point out to you briefly  
~~in a few remarks~~ some of the evidences  
& proofs of reconciliation. ~~If you~~  
~~are reconciled to God~~ I might enumerate  
various marks & evidences by which genuine  
repentance & faith, ~~with~~ and the reconcili-  
ation & pardon accompanying them  
are attested, but I must content myself  
with but a few remarks. Reconciliation  
is necessarily accompanied by the regenerating  
influence of the H. Spirit & will result  
in a newness of living, in an earnest con-  
flict against ~~sin~~ our spiritual enemies  
sin, the world & the devil. The old man  
must be put off & the new man put on.  
But above all he who is reconciled &  
has found peace with God, will  
learn to sympathize with others, he must  
feel pity for all who while an unwary  
outcast from Christ's fold, are an unstable

Now let me remind you, brethren,  
we need not look to foreign lands,  
not to them who sit in Leather  
darkness. There are members in this  
Colony who soon hear the voice of the  
Gospel, though professed members of the  
Church, they too often live as if they ~~had~~  
~~never heard of~~ were without God  
without hope, ~~in this country, as if~~  
~~they~~ without the knowledge of him who  
came to save sinners. Shall we feel indif-  
ferent to ~~such~~ men in this condition, shall we  
~~try to allure them simply to serve the temporal~~  
~~interests~~  
not all who have their own spiritual & eternal  
welfare at heart, or who care for the general  
good of society ~~will~~, offer a helping hand  
& contribute according to their means toward  
the support of ministers of the Gospel  
into the wilds of this country, which it

is a broken place to bring about by that  
Church Society which held its meeting  
here last Friday evening. No good  
Christian man will regret to enjoy  
the merry grace & the communion of the  
Church without caring for those who  
are deprived of these blessings.

One of the surest proofs that you are  
sensitive to God & our souls  
for your immortal soul, will  
be by all actions can, by all active  
efforts & by all liberal aid ~~to~~  
towards the ~~great~~ spiritual welfare  
of them. If you truly care for  
your own salvation you will