

1. Letters of recommendation usually no good. Determined by the source of such letters.
  1. Some are certainly in order. Even Apollos had used one. Acts 18:27
2. Christianity written on the soul is Christianity in the most convincing form. It is the most persuasive form. (I would rather see a sermon)
3. Christianity written on the soul is Christianity in the most enduring form.
  1. You may write truth on paper but paper will moulder.
  2. You may put it in some institution but the institution will dissolve as a cloud.
  3. You may write truth on marble or brass but these too are corruptible.
4. EPISTLES OF CHRIST
  1. The writer is Christ.
    - (1) It is greater to be than to write.
    - (2) Christ wrote a few lines on the sand. John 8:1-11. We do not know what he wrote.
    - (3) Christ simply lived and worked, suffered, died, and conquered. He could not limit his mind within a treatise or a volume. John 21:25
  2. The epistles are Christians.
    - (1) Every person upon whom Christ's will, character, and purpose all are impressed becomes Christ's communication to the world, written by his hand and authorized by his signature.
  3. The tablet is the heart.
    - (1) Letter not written upon tables of stone, nor upon waxen tablets. Not on parchments or papyrus, as perhaps these epistles of Paul were written.
    - (2) Christ writes on tablets that are hearts of flesh.
  4. The Agency, not ink or pencil, but the Spirit of God.
    - (1) WHAT DOES HE WRITE ON THE HEART? He carries truth and love home to the heart with an incomparable power.
  5. The handwriting and substance of the epistles.
    - (1) What difference there is in the matter of the letters we daily receive.
      - (2) One thing in common with all letters: 1. All reveal something of our correspondents. 2. The mind and will both are revealed.
    - (3) Characteristics of these living epistles described in our text.
      1. The epistle is written in the handwriting of the Lord.
      2. The epistles reveal the mind and will of the Lord.
    - (4) Proofs that these epistles are authentic.
      1. Spirituality, holiness of life, obedience, meekness, Benevolence furnish the proof that the epistle is the composition of Christ.
  6. The readers: ALL MEN.
    - (1) Some letters cannot be read by all men.
      1. The characters may be illwritten and illegible. They may be written in cipher, or the language may be scientific and technical.
    - (2) LETTERS WRITTEN BY CHRISTIANS CAN BE READ BY ALL MEN.
      1. The Christian character and life can be read by all.
      2. All men can comprehend the virtues which adorn the Christian life.
      3. Christ's handwriting upon the heart and life will be legible to all men.
      4. We should live so that all men may gain some advantage through reading what the Divine hand has inscribed upon our nature.
5. Let our epistle be a genuine production of Jesus Christ by "the Spirit of the living God."
  1. If we go to the Lord justifying ourselves and accusing others he will only write on the ground. 2. If with a penitent heart we go to the Lord accusing ourselves he will write on us his grace and truth and hereafter he will write on us His new Name.