





AUTHOR'S PREFACE



These five addresses were given, two at the Inter-Varsity Theological Students' Conference in Swanwick, England, in December, 1964, and three, a sequel to the two, at the Inter-Varsity Theological Students' Conference in Northern Ireland, in December, 1965; the latter under the title, *The Ministry in 1966*.



The connection between the two sets of addresses is that some Irish theological students at the Swanwick Conference of 1964 invited the speaker to come to Larne the following year and repeat these addresses; but the title subsequently given called for new material.

Some may think the Irish addresses scarcely deal with the pastoral side of the ministry, but it depends on what is meant by the pastoral ministry. The thesis is that the pastor, being the shepherd of the flock, feeds the flock upon God's Word; the bulk of pastoral work is therefore through the ministry of the Word. Only the residue of problems and difficulties remaining require to be dealt with thereafter.

These five addresses on the work of the pastor have been around for a long time. The book of them has gone





through several editions and has been reproduced in different publications, and I believe it is still valued. I knew when these addresses were given to me by the Spirit that they contained some of the best insights the Lord has afforded me, and I am glad that their message is abidingly relevant to the greatest work ever given to man, the work of the pastor.

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