

(From the book of sermons, compiled and edited by Agnes Robinson, entitled *Heaven's Quest for a Man Like God* by Rev. H. P. Robinson, copyright 1969 by LifeSprings Resources, formerly Advocate Press. Reprinted by permission.)

Foreword

It was my privilege and pleasure to know the author of the sermons which are presented in this volume. I knew him as a friend, a colleague in the work of the Church, a Christian gentleman of the highest order, and a preacher of righteousness and true holiness who stood tall among his peers.

President Woodrow Wilson used quote a saying from his father, a Presbyterian minister, to the effect that a man must be something before he can do anything worthwhile in the ministry or any other calling. In other words, a man's character and person are greater than his works. And H. P. Robinson measured up to this standard.

He was a man of deep and genuine Christian character and spirituality, consecrated to Christ and dedicated to His cause – a cause which He always considered greater than himself.

He was a man of excellent spirit, finely sensitive to the workings of the Spirit of God and was a keen discerner of true spiritual values. He was a devout and profound student of the Word of God, one who drank deeply from the fountain of all truth. Moreover, he had a broad background of information in many areas of knowledge upon which he drew freely in the illustrations of his sermons.

As Enoch, he “walked with God;” as Noah, he “preached righteousness;” as Abraham, he “believed God” and was a true exemplar of the man of faith for his generation; as Daniel, he “purposed in his heart not to defile himself with the king’s meat;” as John the Baptist, he was fearless in denouncing and calling for true repentance; as Paul, he “knew whom he had believed” and lived and died in the firm conviction that He was able to keep this deposit “against that day” of

reckoning and reward; as John the beloved, he had a vision of "the City of God." It is my deep conviction that God found in this man's dedicated life and ministry the vantage ground for the advancement of His Kingdom in many hearts and lives.

H. P. Robinson was a man of many abilities, a truly versatile man. As a pastor, he was unexcelled. As a radio preacher, he proclaimed the Gospel of Christ to vast audiences. As a writer, he was sharp, clear, and direct in the presentation of his thoughts. As a conference official, as a general official, as the head of the Department of Publications for his denomination, he proved himself to be an organizer and administrator of exceptional ability. Whatever he did, he did it well. Whenever he undertook a task, he saw it through. He left no loose ends. He took pride in his work.

But it was as a gospel preacher that he did his best work. He prepared his sermons with great thought and much care. And, when he stood up to preach, people listened; for he preached with a simple eloquence and spiritual anointing that carried a mighty conviction. People felt that a true prophet of the Lord stood before them and that, through his thoroughly Biblical, practical and searching messages, they were hearing from heaven. In his preaching, he enjoyed a true and genuine "Charisma" in the highest spiritual meaning of that word.

While his ministry had a broad appeal and was a blessing to all who heard him, he was in a peculiar sense "a preacher's preacher." He was often called upon to speak to conferences of ministers and to large inter-church gatherings where many ministers from his own and other communions were gathered together. And the ministers always looked forward to his messages and thrilled to his finely prepared and eloquently delivered sermons. His excellent and powerful presentations of the Gospel, especially Scriptural Holiness

and Pentecost, will long be remembered and cherished by those of us who were privileged to hear him.

Our Heavenly Father in His sovereign wisdom saw fit to call him home to be with Him in December of 1965 at a time when he was at the height of his manhood and his great ministry. And those of us who knew him, loved him and enjoyed his fellowship, will never cease to miss him in this world. But we expect to meet him in that better land.

Meanwhile, due to a special providence, we believe he has left us a fine legacy of well written sermons. And Mrs. Robinson has done an excellent job in preparing a good selection of them for publication.

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