

## WHERE THEY SAT

*By H. P. Robinson*

Ministers sometimes feel that they are indeed privileged characters, not to be subjected to the same rules applying to laymen.

A minister may feel like he ought to be forgiven old debts, simply on the basis that he is a preacher. I think this may be the reason why so few preachers get anywhere in business. They expect people to make allowances for them, treat them as an exception and honor the man because of his office.

No honest preacher will use his office to secure material gain. He will not expect any advantage over another nor will he try to escape the toils of life that come to every man. He will be willing to stand with the common man and walk with the crowd in the road. In a word, he will be willing to pay his full fare and ask no odds of any man.

He will not spend his time working for himself and accept a living salary from the people to whom he preaches when all that he gives to them is the time he spends in the pulpit. A man who pastors a church consisting of a membership who toils forty hours a week and faithfully brings tithes into the storehouse should spend equally as much time for them in the discharge of his pastoral duties.

The pastor should be available to the people of his parish every hour, day or night. I feel sure that when every preacher, takes the position of Ezekial when he went down to the banks of the rivers of Babylon and beheld the woes of a heartbroken people, and wrote, "I sat where they sat," then will they learn

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to appreciate the kindness of men towards them and will try to show that appreciation by a fulltime service for them.

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