

**A BISHOP'S MESSAGE:  
COUNSELS ON SOME OF THE  
MANIFOLD PROBLEMS  
CONFRONTING CLERGYMEN TO-  
DAY**

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A Bishop's Message: Counsels on Some of the Manifold Problems Confronting Clergymen To-Day by Ethelbert Talbot

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**ETHELBERT TALBOT**

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# A BISHOP'S MESSAGE

*Counsels on Some of the Manifold Problems  
Confronting Clergymen To-day*

BY THE  
RIGHT REV. ETHELBERT TALBOT, D.D., LL.D.  
BISHOP OF BETHLEHEM



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TO  
THE CLERGY WHOM I HAVE ORDAINED, AND MY  
YOUNG MEN WHO ARE LOOKING FORWARD  
TO THE SACRED MINISTRY, THIS BOOK  
IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED.

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## PREFACE

The thoughts which have found expression in the following pages have occurred to the writer at various times during a ministry of over thirty years of which nearly all have been spent in the work and office of a Bishop in the Church of God.

In holding retreats and quiet hours with his Clergy, the author has frequently found occasion to counsel his younger brethren with reference to the cultivation of the spiritual life, the practical difficulties and dangers of the pastoral office, and many of the problems which confront the Clergyman in the discharge of his duties under the conditions of modern life.

He has also been permitted to have a share in guiding many young men in their studies and preparation for the Holy Ministry.

This book may therefore be regarded as literally the outgrowth of his varied experiences and many sided contacts with men in different stages of their religious life and development.

He offers no apology for imposing on the read-

## PREFACE

ing public the results of his own observation, and hopes that this book may prove of some slight service, not only to his own younger Clergy, but to that larger constituency of ministers both within and beyond his own communion who may be interested in the subjects herein treated.

In deference to the oft repeated request of those who have heard many of these familiar talks, they would have long since been published had they not been delivered either extemporaneously or from the briefest notes.

To prepare them in their present form has been made possible only by utilizing the leisure hours of a few weeks vacation in which he has found time to arrange and marshal the material gathered through many years, and set it forth with some reference to a natural and logical sequence.

As his former book, "A Bishop Among His Flock," addressed to his Laity, has met with such indulgent and generous acceptance, the writer cherishes the hope that these counsels to his Clergy may likewise prove helpful and inspiring.

ETHELBERT TALBOT.

Bishop's House, South Bethlehem, Pa.

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