

THE MINISTERING SHEPHERD

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649021857

The ministering shepherd by Charles Edward Jefferson

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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CHARLES EDWARD JEFFERSON

**THE MINISTERING
SHEPHERD**

THE MINISTERING SHEPHERD



BY

CHARLES EDWARD JEFFERSON

PASTOR OF THE BROADWAY TABERNACLE
IN NEW YORK CITY



AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
PARIS

THE GEORGE SHEPARD LECTURES
ON PREACHING, AT BANGOR
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, 1912

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I

THE SHEPHERD IDEA IN SCRIPTURE AND HISTORY

OF all the titles which have been minted for the envoys of the Son of God, that of "shepherd" is the most popular, the most beautiful, and the most ample. Bishop, presbyter, preacher, priest, clergyman, rector, parson, minister, all of these have been long, and are still, in use, but not one of them is so satisfying or sufficient as "shepherd."

"Bishop" came into the Church from the Gentile world, and was early set aside to designate a special grade of minister—thus losing the range of application which it formerly possessed. In the original sense of the word, bishop is one who oversees and superintends, and the head, therefore, of every congregation might be rightfully called a bishop. Such use of it under present conditions would be misleading.

Presbyter came into the Church through Judaism. Because both the Jewish and Gentile worlds are reflected in our New Testament,