

**NINE LECTURES ON
PREACHING:
DELIVERED AT YALE, NEW
HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

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Nine Lectures on Preaching: Delivered at Yale, New Haven, Connecticut by R. W. Dale

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R. W. DALE

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ON

PREACHING.

DELIVERED AT YALE, NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

BY

R. W. DALE,
Birmingham.

FOURTH EDITION.



IMMO VERO AUDI QUOD DICIS, QUICUMQUE DICIS: ET QUI VIB TE AUDIRI PRIOR
TE AUDI.—*Augustine.*

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PREFACE.

IF I rightly understand the objects for which the Lyman Beecher Lectureship was founded, the Lecturer is not expected to deliver a complete and systematic course on Homiletics. He discharges his duty if he offers to the students whom he has the honour of addressing those practical suggestions with regard to the work of the Christian Preacher which have been verified by his own experience and observation.

It is possible that the religious thought and life of America are in some respects so different from the religious thought and life of England, that very much of what I have written may be of no service to those who are being educated for the American ministry. But I was obliged to speak of the work of the Christian Preacher as I know it best. I have tried to strike hard at the evils which seem to me to lessen the power of the ministry in England; I have tried to strike hardest at the evils which have lessened the

power of my own ministry. If these are evils which the students at Yale have no reason to fear, let them be thankful. If I had a larger knowledge of the Churches and of the ministry of the United States, I have sufficient faith in American generosity to believe that I should have given no offence had I attempted to discuss the special duties and dangers of the American preacher, as they appear to the eye of an Englishman. If any American minister would tell us English preachers, with perfect frankness, what he supposes to be our special defects and our special perils, we should receive his criticisms with cordial gratitude. But my knowledge of America did not justify me in making any such attempt.

I felt that the honour conferred upon me when I was invited to deliver these Lectures was so great that I was not at liberty to decline the invitation. I was bound to do what I could. The President and Fellows and Theological Faculty of Yale will, I trust, receive my assurance that if my power had been equal to my will I should have served them better.

R. W. DALE.

Birmingham.

CONTENTS.



LECTURE I.

INTRODUCTORY: PERILS OF YOUNG PREACHERS	...	PAGE 1
---	-----	-----------

LECTURE II.

THE INTELLECT IN RELATION TO PREACHING...	...	27
---	-----	----

LECTURE III.

READING	63
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

LECTURE IV.

READING (CONCLUDED)	90
---------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

LECTURE V.

THE PREPARATION OF SERMONS	116
----------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

LECTURE VI.

EXTEMPORANEOUS PREACHING AND STYLE	151
------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

LECTURE VII.

EVANGELISTIC PREACHING	182
-------------------------------	-----

LECTURE VIII.

PASTORAL PREACHING	231
---------------------------	-----

LECTURE IX.

THE CONDUCT OF PUBLIC WORSHIP: CONCLUSION ...	263
---	-----