

rise up in this Land, especially a Ministry that should be ignorant of the Holy Scriptures; or that should think or speak disparagingly of them, or that should insinuate the *Uselessness* of them to *unconverted Men*; Especially when we are told that the *Law of the Lord is perfect, converting the Soul; the Testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the Simple*. Psal. 19:7. And no less dangerous is it to insinuate, as if the *Bible* was not very necessary for the *Saints*, by Reason of their having the Spirit to enlighten and direct them. *If the Foundations be destroyed, what can the Righteous do?* The Scripture is that *sure Word of Prophecy, to which we must take heed, as to a Light that shineth in a dark Place*. And once we neglect this Light, to follow the supposed Dictates of the Spirit, or a *Light within*, I verily fear that the *Light*, which such fancy to be in them, will prove but *Darkness*.

“Accordingly we who are the *Ministers of Christ*, and have the glorious Gospel committed to our Trust, should be upon the *Watch-Tower*, to spy out every Thing of such a dangerous Tendency, that we may give seasonable Warnings thereof.”

This selection is dedicated to those courageous clergy of our times who, remaining faithful to the Gospel and from the “Watch-Tower” of Scripture, give faithful warning of the “dangerous tendencies” of Satan.

The Church And The Republic

“I have in my library a volume bearing this title: ‘Historical and Patriotic Addresses, Centennial and Quadrennial.’ The American flag forms its frontispiece and American History constitutes the contents of its pages. The book has over one thousand pages . . . It is the intention of the book to give the steps of American progress and set forth the elements of our Republic’s strength. In the book are national odes by Whittier and Holmes, and orations by Webster and Adams and Evarts and Curtis and Depew and Winthrop and kindred spirits, and patriotic sermons by loyal divines, closing with a sermon delivered in this pulpit. When I took up this book and turned its pages, this was the one thing which I noticed: looking through the book was like looking over an American landscape or over an American city; the chief thing which caught the eye was the Christian church. In every ode and oration and sermon of the book rises the tapering church spire, tipped with a glittering cross or with a blazing star. Here is a book composed of the deepest thoughts and observations of America’s foremost thinkers,—poets, jurists, statesmen, merchants, ministers,—and it represents all classes of Americans as saying, The Christian church has been one of the most potent factors in the construction of the American Republic and one of the greatest bulwarks of its

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Republic*