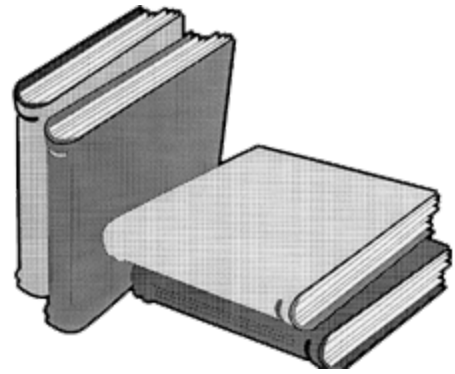


The Rock and Pit

*Look unto the rock whence ye are hewn,
and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged.*

Isa 51:1

Selections from the Christian's heritage in print,
Collected by Dean Brown



Issue 959g

The Potential Influence of a Layman.

After a career in the construction business, Ernest Reisinger (1919-2004), Carlisle Pennsylvania, was ordained as a Baptist minister at age 52. R. T. Kendall, the American who would become pastor of Westminster Chapel, London (well known as Martyn Lloyd-Jones' church from about 1940 till his retirement) was uncertain of the wisdom of the step. He wrote:



Ernie and I used to have a difference of opinion as to whether he should be ordained a minister. I felt his letting people ordain him was a mistake.

When I first knew him he was a layman—a very powerful and erudite layman at that. He knew more theology than most ministers, but when he became a minister, he was in a sense like the rest of them—even if he were a cut above them.

I thought his influence was far more vast as a layman than as a minister, but he had to do what God led him to do.

Goefrey Thomas, *Ernest C. Reisinger, A Biography*,
Banner of Truth 2002, p. 137