

You were speaking about the founding of Faith Seminary, and you were asking certain questions about it. I thought back again to how wonderfully the Lord providentially worked in helping us get started. Of course I had a very definite ideal which had a relationship to the attitude of old Princeton, certainly just as much devoted to the integrity of Scripture and importance of absolute ~~xx~~ loyalty to whatever Scripture teaches as Princeton ever was. But my emphasis was on finding what the Bible really says than I'd ever found there, or than you'll ever find in most institutions I believe.

I had that ideal when we started Faith but we could not have started it, if it had not been for the 8 yrs. at Westminster. I was rather discouraged as I thought of those 8 yrs. I remember saying once to Francis Schaeffer how I felt almost as if part of my life had been wasted. He said, If you had not had that, you would not have this! I think it is true I got a training from it and a background, and I got various kinds of training that were of great value.

For instance at Westminster they had reacted rather strongly against the attitude -- the fact that in Princeton they never had a president at Princeton until 1912, about 100 yrs. old or so. But when Dr. Patton left the presidency of Princeton University they wanted to get the advantage of his theological learning, and of his personality, etc., and so they asked him to become president of the seminary.

Therefore they introduced the idea of having a president. Then he was succeeded by J. Ross Stevenson, who as a graduate of McCormick did not have the background of Princeton tradition. Stevenson was very ecumenical. He wanted to get all the churches together. That was his great ideal. If he was with a group of evangelicals, he'd make you think he was a strong evangelical. But he wanted them all to get together. That was his big objective

Of course he was very much against the emphasis of most of the faculty. He did a great many things they disapproved of very strongly and that the Board disapproved of very strongly. All this irritated them so much that when they founded Westminster they definitely did not want a president.

Westminster now has a president. The State ==no, the Middle States required they have a president in order to have its accreditation, because you can't run a school without a president. You have to have a leader. It's impossible. But, the result of that was that theoretically during those 8 yrs. Westminster was run by the faculty, so everything was decided by vote of the whole faculty.

That would have been quite unworkable if it had not been for the fact that certain members of the faculty were so far ahead of the rest of us that while the form of everybody participating was very much carried out, actually Dr. Machen and Dr. Allis were the heads in most everything until they disagreed between themselves.