

Now the most important thing with each of us is our attitude to Christ and our relationship to Him. One can be further away ~~from~~ from me in these and yet have a more true, and deep relationship to Christ than someone who is somewhat nearer.

I believe there are two different areas. There is the area of development of Christian spirit of accomplishing what the Lord wants us to do. Development in grace the way he wants each of us to be, in which we have a great -- and attitude of empathy toward each in trying to draw them nearer.

But then there is of course the area of Polemics. I think of that area in a different category. Yet it has its own very definite importance. Because Satan is trying constantly to move us away. If we can help someone not to be moved away, we are doing good and sometimes in doing that it is necessary to speak very strongly about the errors, of those people and those forces that would lead him away.

I have a book here by Jack Rogers. I don't know where I came across it. He teaches at Fuller now. The book is called the Confessions of a Conservative Evangelical. In the book he tells how he was brought up in a very fine United Presbyterian Church. That's the old UP Church, which was generally considered as more orthodox than the Presbyterian Church U.S.S.A. I don't think it was more intelligently orthodox than the leaders of the conservatives in the Presbyterian church U.S.A. I think it was more easily swung over.

But I think for a long time it did--the rank and file of its ministers did hold a more solid stand for the great doctrines of Scripture. I remember when there was a big argument years ago on union between the United Presbyterians and the Presbyterians U.S.A. which eventually were united. When that argument was, Dr. Macartney who was pastor of the big Presby. Ch. U.S.S.A. in Pittsburgh invited the United Presbyterian ministers of the city to come together so he could speak to them. He urged them to vote against the union because it would bring them into a movement in which there was so much modernism and unbelief as there was in the denomination he belonged to.

That was the general ideal of the old United Presbyterian church. Jack Rogers was brought up in that church. He tells in the book how thoroughly he stood on all his background and his ~~own~~ doctrines, etc. But then as he presents it as he came in contact with different ideas and saw different needs, etc. he broadened out until now he stands upon the great spiritual insights of the Bible, but we should not let Greek culture, Greek science,--the Bible is written in the sense of that culture--and we should not interpret it in that way and think it is going to be a book that gives us true ideas of science, etc.

You can see he's moved a long ways, and he's taken a strong stand against inerrancy and for the social gospel and moved quite a bit more toward Barth and in that direction. He describes it in his book. His change has been the result of the things he has come in contact with, the ideas he has come in contact with, the experiences of life, etc. But I personally think the cause of it is entirely different. I don't know what college he went to, but I would feel fairly certain it was either a Presbyterian or U.P. college.