

So I'd say the same thing toward a Roman Catholic. I was on a boat one time coming back from Germany. I ran on to a RC who had just been studying in Rome. He told how in his classes they were taking up Harnack's attack on supernatural Christianity and the different higher criticism, etc. I felt as if his basic interest was very similar to my own. in defending basic Christianity.

Another time I crossed on the boat and there was a RCC priest there and immediately when I started talking to him, why auschange(?) you could see he thought we were heretics and that's it. You were just out! I would not say there ~~is~~ that every RC is a heretic--just out. I feel much closer to a RC who believes the Bible is true, and who for all I know may be truly putting his faith in Christ who died on the cross, than I do to a Protestant minister to whom the cross is just an ornament and he's trying to make a better world.

I often find these hard-and-fast lines are very very difficult.

Eck mentioned Dr. Payne's death. I've gotten more information in the last 2 or 3 days I had not had before about that. A letter from Dr. Harris he is sending out to all those who contribute to something I gave him 2 or 3 years ago that he had not yet published. He sent out this letter and in the course of it he told about Payne's death. He said his body was found at the foot of (i think) a 20 foot drop. And that the weather was freezing but they thought he had been instantly killed by hitting his head when he landed.

Christianity Today has an article recently in which they tell about his death and they say there were 40 people out looking for him. Evidently it was quite a search to find him. Those were facts I had not heard before. But Eck said -- I said yes he was a very fine man. He said, Yes but why does the Lord let this happen how? I said, The Lord wants us to know he's not dependant on human effort of even the best of us. He said, Yes, but it's hard to understand. He said, I cannot understand why Machen should have died when he did.

Machen did a great work while he living, and as you look at the work Machen did while he was living, you think if he had lived another 20 years think how much he could have written that was wonderful. But I being closely connected with him saw how he was getting under the thumb of a certain influence which was getting like McIntire is in one direction, they were in another. And he was feeling such a personal loyalty to people he thought were being attacked that my impression is that fine as some of the things he might have done would have been that if he had lived longer there is a good bit today in the world that would not be here.

Dr. Laird was a tremendous help to us at FTSS; tremendous help. He was Sec. to the Board at Westminster and then he was Sec. of our Board. We met in his church. I heard him say,