

A: Students have a tendency to expect perfection. If two teachers have varying qualities, one being superior in a certain regard and another in a different regard, it is a common tendency to criticize each for the feature in which he is somewhat below the other rather than to be grateful for the features in which each may excell. I believe, though, that if anyone were to spend a week attending classes taught by members of our present faculty, and then to spend a week attending classes taught by those who were members of the Princeton faculty when I was there, he would be tremendously impressed by the superiority of our faculty in teaching ability. Although Dr. Machen was an excellent teacher, most of the professors then at Princeton Seminary were extremely poor teachers and one got little from their courses unless he was himself determined to master the material. It was there to take, but it was not put into the minds of the students. Every member of our faculty at Biblical has outstanding ability, not only in scholarly understanding of the truth, but also in putting it into the minds of the students. In fact, I can say that of the various universities where I have attended courses during my life there is none that has as high an average of pedagogical ability as we have at Biblical today.

Q: In the midst of all these conflicts and disappointments how did you manage to keep to your primary objective and follow in the line that you believe to have been central in the minds of Dr. Wilson and Dr. Machen? How did you manage to hang on and persevere with love for the Lord?

A: It comes down to one's having a clear idea of what is really important. If we truly believe in the Lord we know that His will is bound to prevail. We must realize that God would not have permitted these difficulties unless He had a good purpose in them, and that He can enable us to surmount any harmful results from them, if that be His will.