

This is a talk on the relation of the Christian and the Christian church to politics and government. This is a subject which I think deserves our very careful consideration. On the one hand, ~~xx~~.....it was particularly prominent, say ~~xxxxx~~ twenty years ago, in this country, the attitude of the modernists, positively putting their stress on the making of a new social order. It is still their great central theme, but perhaps is not quite as much stressed as before, because they are stressing certain other things along with it. But you pick up almost any modernistic book, especially in the earlier type of modernism, and you will find that its great stress is on the social reform. On the building up of the kingdom of God in this world. On the improvement in social life and politics and the necessity that the church shall engage in social action. We have to face this. It is a very prominent attitude in our world today. We have to decide what ~~we~~ we should think about it.

On the other hand, on the opposite extreme, we find some who rather strongly criticize the American Council of Christian Churches and the International Council of Christian Churches, saying that these organizations in passing resolutions about Communism, about the sending of an ambassador to the Vatican, about various matters of this type, are entering into politics. And that the church has no business in politics, and that a council of churches should have nothing to do with politics. And so we have two opposite extremes. And so, in these next three hours, I want to discuss with you what the right attitude should be.

Well, there are three ways that we might go about it, to attempt to decide. One of these is, of course, is reflection. To think about the problem, to get the various factors in ~~mind~~ mind. And try to see what we think is most important. ~~B~~ What we think will be most useful. This matter of reflection might otherwise ~~we~~ might be called philosophizing. It is the human mind considering the situation, and deciding just ~~we~~ what is the thing that ought to be done. Dr. Hedegard has shown us that one of the great ~~effects~~ <sup>defects</sup> of the Lundensian theology is that it is based, not upon what the Bible says, but upon