

4/15/59

I have heard that Dr. Niebuhr, Reinhold Niebuhr, said that the churches of New York, in supporting your campaign, are alligning themselves with ballyhoo. What do you think of that? And then Graham got up, faced the television camera and he waved his arms and he spoke in a very effective way (8 1/4)

and he said this. He said, well that is a matter for the churches themselves to decide. But he said as far as Reinhold Niebuhr is concerned, he is one of the greatest theologians in the world. Thinking people all over the world respect Dr. Niebuhr, he said, I wouldn't want to get into any controversy with Reinold N<sup>I</sup>ebuhr because I would probably get the worst of it. Well, every time I hear the name of Billy Graham mentioned I see him standing up on that television screen (8 3/4)

come to my meetings, get the simple gospel, but then there's a great theologian Reinhold Niebuhr who will tell you how to serve the Lord and what's important for (9)

Suppose that fifty people came to know the Lord and were saved through the message he gave, praise the Lord for it. But suppose 500 others went forward and were emotionally moved and then were turned to follow Reinhold Niebuhr and dozens of others of the same type, to get the poison that might and might not in their case lead them not to really in their hearts accept the Lord but would ruin any chance of their being effective workers for the Lord, and in the end to keep hundreds or thousands who might have come to the Lord. It's terrible. To compromise with that which leads people to hell is terrible, it's wicked, it is ghastly. Separation is not an end in itself. God doesn't want us to put up a banner, separation, this is the thing that counts. The thing that counts is salvation. It is coming to know the Lord. It is the witnessing to Him. But separation is a means along the way and a very important means. It is a tremendously important thing if kept in its right place. But even the best of men, even the glorious teaching of the return of Christ, if made the primary thing instead of being put in its proper place, can become a hindrance to the Lord's work. We must stress these matters of prophecy,