

Now we move on further and we come to Martin Luther. We do not think of Martin Luther as a leader of Presbyterianism, because there is a whole church, a whole denomination named after Luther. <sup>And yet we</sup> ~~But we~~ find Luther taking his stand against worldly misrepresentation of the Word of God, taking his stand upon the clear teaching of the Word of God, taking his stand upon the teachings of the Word of God <sup>regarding</sup> ~~concerning~~ the sovereignty of God, in such a way that Luther's teachings are actually much nearer to those doctrines which have historically been called Presbyterian than they are to the official ~~stand~~ stand that the Lutheran Church has taken since his <sup>?</sup> trial.

Luther of course had no idea of starting a denomination. Luther simply wanted everybody to turn to the Word of God and stand upon it. When Luther was on his deathbed people said to him - shortly before he died, "Martin Luther, we are going to get out a great edition of your work. We are going to get out a fine presentation of all that you have written in your life. Luther said, "Don't do it. Throw my works away. Publish the Bible." He said, "The Bible is what matters and is what people need." Then Luther paused and he thought a minute - "Well, " he said, "I would rather hate to see all my works thrown away." He said, "I wish you would keep my work on the bondage of the will." And do you know, among the Lutherans today <sup>who</sup> ~~they~~ lay great stress upon Luther's writings, ~~There~~ is one of his writings they rarely mention and that is his writing on the bondage of the will, in which he out-Calvin's Calvin on the sovereignty of God. Surely we have a right to claim Martin Luther as part of our Presbyterian heritage.

And then we turn on to Calvin, the younger contemporary to Luther, and we see in Calvin not only the great stand for the Word of God, not only the great stand for the sovereignty of God, not only the great worker who worked so hard, who turned out such tremendous energy, who did so much to advance the knowledge and understanding of the Bible, but we see a man whose whole soul was devoted to the central teaching of the Scripture and <sup>who ~~risked~~ wished</sup> ~~to~~ no schism in the body of Christ over points of secondary nature.