

MINISTER'S CONFERENCE

Cape May, N.J.

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Introduction by Dr. McIntire: We've announced that Dr. MacRae would be our featured speaker as he deals with the Scriptures. I'm going to introduce him right now. Most of you know him. He is the Prof. of OT at Faith Seminary, President of the Seminary also. I studied Hebrew under him when I was in seminary and he and I have been closely associated together since we started Faith Seminary in 1937. He's been the President of the Faculty and of the Seminary and I've been the President of the Board of this institution and we've worked together these many years. I guess it was over a year ago I went to him and asked him if he would write a book which I could distribute to the broadcast on the higher critical approach to the Scriptures - J, E, P, & D. He said he would do it if I would furnish him a man. We'll we gave him a man to do his work for him, at least his research, and now that dear Dr. Mac Rae has gotten into this I think he's got two volumes going, and I don't know where he's going out, but in the meantime he's become so immeshed with this subject and all these questions that I can think of no better man in the country to spend three days with us in the early morning like this discussing these questions of the authority, trustworthiness, and defense of the Bible. Dr. MacRae the is yours. We welcome you. Let's give him a hand!

MacRae: I'm very fond of the first ch. of 1 Peter and particularly of those last three verse: "Being born again not of ~~an~~ corruptible seed but of incorruptible by the Word of God that liveth and abideth forever. For all flesh is like grass and the glory of man like the flower of grass . . . but the Word of the Lord endureth forever . . .

I was asked to speak to you about the defense of the Bible. Some years ago, I remember hearing a man become very indignant to hear men talking about defending the Bible. He said, The Bible is like a lion; just turn it loose; why should we defend it? He went on to say he thought there were a lot of people over here who were defending the Bible, and a lot of people over here who were attacking it, and nobody preaching it! He said what we need is people preaching the Bible rather than people defending the Bible. That, like other statements, contains a very strong half-truth. It is very easy for us to be led astray by a half-truth into a total error. Of course, I agree, we don't need to defend the Bible. The Bible is God's Word. It needs no defense. But we need to defend people from being misled about the Bible. We need to protect people from erroneous attacks on the Bible, from misrepresentations and questions that keep them from getting the truth of God's Word. Of course, it is far more important to preach the Word of God than to defend it. There is nothing so important as bringing the message of sããvation to people, bring-in the Word to them that they may know what its truth is and how they may be saved, and that believers may grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord. There's nothing in the world as important as this. Yet why is it that 60 yrs. ago there were probably 30 times as many people in this country preaching the Word of God as there are today. There are more ministers in the country today by far, just as there are more people.