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# 1815

movement showing itself in the NCC and in the WCC whose great objective is to get all the Christian churches together into one big church and then get them together with the Roman Catholics, get them together with the Jews, get them together with the Buddhists, and the Mohammedans and it goes on and on until in the end it is just a union for social service and there is no religion left in it. One of these leaders has even written a book in which he has said we may even have to drop the word God from our vocabulary altogether. But this ecumenical movement is a tremendous force today. It is vital for us to be aware of it, to understand it, and to know what our attitude should be toward it.

The second emphasis to which this evangelical ardour has been transferred, is the building of a perfect society. Here still it is not primarily bad, because it is the Lord's desire that we exert our energy as a side issue to making this world a better world. But when we make it the ~~xx~~ main issue we fail of our objective. When you make the main issue the building of a perfect society, and don't get your blueprint ~~fx~~ for that society from the Bible but from your imagination and from the writings of anti-Christian thinkers, the result is that the perfect society you think you are building will be something that will be far inferior to the society we have today.

These two are the great central factors in the ecumenical movement. They are the getting churches and people together and building a great big organization, and using this organization with which to change society. This change of society has gone into an extreme attitude as is natural to expect when it becomes a primary objective.

When I was a boy I was greatly shocked at what impressed as the mindless jingoism that was characteristic of our country at that time. Ours was the greatest country in the world and all other countries were greatly inferior in just about every way. I reacted against that.