

theological matters at all, some of the professors, knowingly or unknowingly, were introducing anti-Christian attitudes into their thinking. I observed that a teacher of literature or history can influence his students in almost any direction he chooses.

I thoroughly agree with R. that we need Christians in the humanities. In fact, I think our need for them in this area is greater than in almost any other, aside from study of the Bible itself.

When students who have been extensively trained in science have come here to study the Bible under our direction, I have rejoiced at their being trained to think in a positive and objective terms, and dealing with experiments and observations, even though they have had to face an anti-Christian background, but have realized that immediate contacts between their previous training and their Bible study occur at comparatively few points. A background in the humanities would constantly relate in one way or another to biblical interpretation and biblical teaching.

In any area of Christian activity into which one might enter, training in the humanities could be useful. I shall mention a few of its values.

The first that occurs to me is that of ability to write. The statement that one either can write or can't is true only to a limited extent. The ability to express oneself clearly and effectively is not innate. With little training some can write far better than others, but everyone can develop tremendously in this area.

Whatever one's thoughts may be, his ability to express them clearly is a vital factor in his effectiveness. I gather from your letter that this area does not impress you directly but one could hardly study literature without learning a good bit about the difference between effective writing and ineffective writing. The ability to express one's thoughts and to help others to express their thoughts well would be of tremendous benefit to the cause of Christ....

You say you are not interested in infiltrating a university with Christian teaching. Yet one can never be sure how the Lord might lead. I know of professors in various universities who help Christian students in many ways, though often only as an extra-curricular activity.

Within the last few decades Christian people have established a considerable number of colleges in various parts of the United