

States and other countries, seeking to give a thoroughly Christian training. All of these are having difficulty getting teachers of literature with a really Christian attitude. In most of them the influence of teachers in the field of literature is to some extent a counter-influence to the teaching of the institution as a whole, and in some cases this fact is quite unrealized, even by some of the teachers themselves. A professor of literature in a Christian college could do a great work for Christ both directly and indirectly.

The course that you have outlined impresses me as a very good one. I believe that training in these lines could be used very effectively in Christian activity, provided of course that one should keep his feet solidly on the Rock and be constantly and carefully watchful against being swept unknowingly into anti-Christian attitudes and thought patterns.

Many of the writers in the 19th century, particularly in its first half, had a strong Christian background in their upbringing or in their thinking, and one can see in their works how they were facing problems. Many of them were gradually swept away from their mooring.

Study of literature can indeed become a vital part of Christian mission and if one keeps his feet solidly on the rock of God's truth it can give him material that can be greatly used for the work of Christ, both material and skills. It can also give a fund of illustrations for seminars and Bible lessons. I would not presume to say whether these values are sufficient to "warrant an other four years studying it," but when you add the prestige of the Ph.D. to the value for Christian life and testimony it is probably more worth it than the same amount of time spent in various scientific fields.

I hope these rather off-hand remarks will be of some help to you. My knowledge in the field of literature is rather superficial and yet I have dabbled in many of its areas. If there is any particular point on which I could be of further help please let me know.