

Also in the same document Dr. Wesphal stated that the Synod Nationale of the English Reformed Church of France

"Would accept the new basis as an attempt to express a mystery of the divine revelation which does not intend to impose upon the member churches any particular theology."

III The Attitude of the Ecumenical Council Towards God's Word, The Bible

I recently addressed a group of Christian laymen who are quite exercised about the liberal forces within the National Council of Churches and who are attempting to clean up the church from within. I pointed out that a careful analysis of the structure of the National and World Council of Churches would reveal that the control is in the hands of a few and that these very leaders do not believe the Bible as God's inspired, inerrant, and infallible Word. I further pointed out that the Sunday School Literature and literature in the Youth Departments of churches within the National and World Council were designed to undermine faith in the Bible. For the most part denominations in the ecumenical camps have long since passed the point of no return where they can return to a sound Biblical basis. I say this because they control of most denominations is tight and because the seminaries which produce the future pastors and leaders are long since committed to liberal theology and the ecumenical road. Any aid or comfort given to the ecumenical movement can only serve to keep fundamentalists within the framework of the liberal churches and thus subject children and grandchildren to apostate teaching which can only have disastrous effects to the families of our churches.

A. What do the ecumenical leaders say about the Bible?

1. Dr. Eugene Carson Blake - In his famous merger sermon in San Francisco on December 4, 1960 Dr. Blake proposed a four-way merger of four major denominations - Presbyterian, Methodist, Episcopal, and United Church of Christ. Dr. Blake began his sermon with these words,

"Led, I pray by the Holy Spirit" and "Required to preach under the Word of God" and "I speak as one minister of Jesus Christ".

After claiming the Holy Spirit, the Word of God, and Jesus Christ on his side he went on to state,

"A few years ago I would have felt that here was an issue on which no possible agreement could be reached. The Reformation Churches have traditionally found their authority for faith and life in the Scriptures alone. So long as the wording 'sola scriptura' is required, no bridge can be made between Catholic and Evangelical. But it is now clear in ecumenical conversations that Protestants generally have come to recognize the right place of tradition just as Catholics have generally become aware of the rightness of judging all tradition by the Scriptures as interpreted to the church by the Holy Spirit."

Dr. Blake does not believe in the sole authority of the Bible and he says so.

2. A.M. Ramsey, Archbishop of Canterbury - Mr. Ramsey was elected one of the new presidents of the World Council of Churches. In the London Daily Mail for Monday October 2, 1961, he is reported to have said,

"Heaven is also not a place to which we humans go in our present bodily state nor is it a place for Christians only. Those who have led a good life on earth but found themselves unable to believe in God will not be debarred from heaven. I expect to meet some present-day atheists there . . . Must one for instance believe in the virgin birth? No,