

to me, We only preach from the NT. But, he said, I don't agree with them. He said, I find ~~lost~~ - lots of human interest in the OT, particularly in the books of Job and Ecclesiastes. Now that was his attitude toward the OT. I'm sure that is not the attitude of any of us here toward the OT. We occasionally find churches that have a sign: Now Creed But the NT. I don't believe that is a Christian statement. The Bible is the foundation of the Christian's life, not simply one part of the Bible. And yet our ~~stress~~ ^{tendency} is to put our great ^{est} stress on the NT, and I believe we should indeed. The NT is perhaps only a fourth of the whole, it should surely have just as much stress as the OT. But it certainly should not have anything like exclusive stress.

Those of you who were in my class last fall in Introduction to the OT will recall perhaps that I told about my experience in Germany when I attended the last series of public lectures given by a noted German scholar, Prof. von Harnack. The subject of his series of lectures was the Development of the NT Canon, and he listed various results of the establishment of the NT Canon, and he said one result of it was that ~~it caused the OT was that~~ it caused the OT to be preserved. Now he said there may be some of you who wish the OT had been lost, in the early days of the Christian church. He said I don't agree with that viewpoint, but, he said, If I had my choice I'd have the ~~NT printed with~~ Bibles printed with the NT with big letters in the front and then in the back, headed like the Apocrypha is headed in the German Bible, he said, he would have the OT in small type with the heading: Books not inspired but valuable for reading. And in ~~that~~ that class in which we had assigned seats, or rather we had the right ^{there} to come in there ahead of time and put our cards on seats, on the arms there, and with the particular class we wanted that seat reserved for ^{us}, and I had a seat right in the second row, and that morning there was no one on either side of me, so I was sort of alone. But when he said that all the other students began to applaud. In Germany they used to applaud this way -- clapp, clap, etc., and they made a deafing roar. And then when they died down enough so that he could be heard, he said, well you don't need to worry, it won't be done the way I would like to see it.