

change, situations change, and we must have flexibility; we must have reasonable flexibility, and not become tied to something simply because that's the way it has been done. All religions have a reputation for this, for getting into certain ruts, certain systems, certain conditions, and carrying them on. It is interesting in our ^{geology (?)} theology, how you find that the people who came into Mesopotamia where there were no stones hardly, they had to build everything out of earth, which they wet and allowed ~~it~~ to dry in the sun, to make bricks out of it. And if they would heat them in the fire of course they could make very hard bricks, but that was expensive and done only for very special things. But when they came to build their temples they tried to make the bricks look like stones. They tried to make their temple buildings look like the buildings that had been used in the mountain area from which they had come before they came into Mesopotamia. In religious things we are particularly apt, on non-essentials, (hyphen?) simply to follow a ~~tradition~~ traditional thing. ~~We~~ Now (not clear) cast aside a traditional thing without consideration, but we should not allow ourselves simply to become tied to it. Reasonable flexibility is very important in any activity in which you are to become involved. I never liked the idea that we call ourselves conservatives. I think that probably it's the best name to use under present circumstances, and yet the word "conservative" can mean we hold to the old because it is old, and we certainly don't want to do that. We believe that that which has been effective should not be cast aside without very careful consideration, and without becoming sure that we really have something better. But we don't want to cling to something simply because it is old or simply because it ~~has~~ has been used. Personally, I have always liked the word "fundamentalist" far better than conservative. And of course the ~~the~~ liberals, the modernists, have managed to give a certain slur to the term "fundamentalism" so that many people think that a fundamentalist is someone who holds a snake up to let it bite him in order to prove it can't hurt him, or some that he is a very primitive sort of person, but the interesting thing is that though ~~many~~ people