John Calvin

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the Bishop, and burned a protestant town,/had sent its x troops to help Geneva against the Bishop. And Berne did not say, You've got to become protestant. Berne said, You must give protestants the right to speak freely and to present their views, and if possible to have discussions and disputes without being interferred with. Geneva permitted them to do that.

A French evangelist 20 yrs. older than J. Calvin, Wm. Farrel came into the tow_n He'd been doing evangelistic work in many parts of Switzerland previously. He came into the town and the town voted against the Bishop to make itself a protestant city and order that Farrel be permitted to preach in the cathedral. All thepeople as the custom was were expected to go to services and hear him. But & Farrel preached out in his violent === strong and almost violent terminology, in which he attacked everything he did not agree with and presented the great central features of the gospel and called upon the people to live in accordance with the Gospel. Farrel got himself in all kinds of difficulty as he sought to organized the city into a really Christian city.

One day a friend came to Farrel and said, There's a young man staying in aninn over here tonight named John Calvin. I've heard he's written on Christian things." Farrel, said, O yesn he's written those Institutes of the Chrsitian Religion. I must go and see him." So he went to Calvin and said, John Calvin, I'm trying to establish a Chrsitian community here. I'm trying to get the emphasis here on Christian things. But he said, I'm having a terrible difficulty and need assistance. You stay and be my assistant, help me."

But Calvin said, I'm not a preacher, I?m a scholar. I need to write some more books. I want to go on to Basel and I want to settle there and I want to devote myself to study and writing. That's a fine work, but it's not what I'm cut out for.

But Farrel said, I need you. I'm in a desperate situation here and you could give me tremendous help. Calvin said, I wish T could but I'm just not cut out for that kind of work at all. Farrel said, "John Calvin, the curse of God will remain on your head if you don't join me in this town." Somebody said, That's the only time somebody put fear into John Calvin. Calvin said, I cannot turn away from the will of God. I think you're right. I will do what I can. So Farrel went to the council and said, There is a young Frenchman I'd like to have for my a-sistant. And they wrote in the directons, Farrel has brought a young Frenchman. (They did not even bother to give his name) and wants him to be his assistant. They took him as Farrel's assistant but paid him nothing at all for two or three months. Farrel k got him a place to stay. But immediately Calvin started giving daily lectures in the Cathedral on the epistles of St. Paul. These lectrues began to attract attention and interest. Then the council asked Farrel and Calvin to go over the laws of Geneva and reorganize them.