

occasions that during that last century the great evangelists in the South were mostly Methodists; those in the North he said at that time were mostly Presbyterian. Dr. Smith's? (~~XXXXX~~ Jones) own background was Methodist but when the Methodist Church in its control fell largely under the hands of unbelievers, Dr. Jones found it necessary to sever his connections with it.

During this last century a new force came in, a force ~~XXXXX~~ greater and stronger than any that had been operating before. This was the rise of evolution, and the related rise of the higher criticism. So during the last fourth of the last century these influences came into American universities and theological seminaries, and with them there came the relativism that made it possible for people to sign things and not believe a word they said.

I was talking to Prof. Ohmstead, Prof. of History in the University of Chicago one day some years ago. Pro. Ohmstead said to me, I am a member of the Society for Biblical Studies in the Chicago area. There are about 40 of it in it. We meet frequently to have papers on studies in the OT. I am the only one in it who isn't in an institution in which he has had to sign a paper saying he believes in the truth of the Bible. I am the only honest man in it! I don't believe the Bible and I say so, but these folks are every bit as liberal as I am every one of them, and they all sign these papers. I at least am honest!"

Of course I couldn't help having the thought in the back of my head: You are honest, yes. But you have an income from an institution that is known throughout the country for its anti-Christian stand. If you had a chance instead of earning your income by making such statements would you do it? I don't know. I didn't ask him. But it shows what the effects of the higher criticism has been.

You go into almost any of our big cities today and you will see there great beautiful edifices - the great Methodist church, the great Presbyterian church, the great Baptist church, the great Lutheran church. Churches in which 50 years ago, or at least 75 years ago you would have heard the Word of God proclaimed. You would have seen individuals brought to faith in Christ through a fine presentation of the necessity of faith in Christ for salvation. Today you go in ~~at~~ most of those big and beautiful edifices and you find that the presentation is on how to build a new world, how to change civilization, how to get away from old traditions. Often no mention whatever of Christ or anything of that type.

I picked up a book one day written by a Methodist minister of a big church, and the title of it was HOW TO BECOME A BISHOP WITHOUT BEING RELIGIOUS. In the book the man said, One thing you must remember ~~that~~ is often to say 'the Bible says'. He said, After you say that you can go on and say anything you want, but if you say, The Bible says, the people will look up to you in piety and pleasure and will readily take what you give them. What insincerity has come in! What a denial of the cause for which these institutions were founded.