

I do not believe that my cooperating in order to advance the work of Christ should be dependent on agreement on details of eschatology, particularly of premillennialism. I think that many churches have been very wise, perhaps, to put premillennialism into their creedal statements, because of this very point. But this is a point at which unbelieving ministers have often deduced principles of interpretation ~~with~~ with which they have gradually turned people away from belief in the resurrection, from belief in the deity of Christ, from belief in these great central doctrines.

So I think it may be wise in starting a new organization to make premillennialism an essential point in that particular organization, but I do not think it should be made a point that makes a breach in Christian fellowship. I think that this is very vital.

Early in this century in the Presbyterian churches in Philadelphia, there was a great controversy which almost split them into two groups. There were those who said, When we are having prayer in the church we should kneel. And there was the other group that said, When we are having prayer in the church we should stand. And there was almost a split in the churches of Philadelphia. Practically all of which then were then standing foursquare on the great doctrines of the Scripture, whether they should kneel in prayer, whether they should stand in prayer.

I don't know how long that particular controversy lasted but probably the fact that people got so excited about a matter like that was one of the things Satan' used to cause a revulsion against it on the part of some to make it easy for unbelief to come in until in most of the churches in the United Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, I fear that in most of them the Word of God is denied, and the deity of Christ is ~~is~~ either ignored or definitely denied.

I remember 40 years ago in church after church in which gradually unbelieving ministers would come in and take over. I remember one church that wanted to stand solidly for the Word of God. But when a beloved minister who was a great outstanding minister of the Word of God died, the people were uncertain who to get for pastor. There was a division among them. The modernist leaders in Presbytery (tho not admitting they were modernists) said, Now look there has been great discension here; you are all upset. It's not time to pick a pastor. Here's a man here, a fine Christian minister who is wanting to retire and he will take your pulpit for a year. During that year you can get things quieted down and look around and decidew who you want, and this man came in and with pious phrases and a pleasant personality he won the people to him so that at the end of the year he was called as pastor, and the second or third year he was there ~~and~~ he was teaching entirely different than ~~than~~ than he had in the first year and bringing in unbelief that became == that it became one of the citidels of modernism in the area!