

No. I, A, why we study ch. hist. and then there are four reasons why we don't study it and then there are three reasons why we do study it. And the 1st reason we notice why we do study it, is one which perhaps has more relativeness to us than the first two have, and yet not entirely. This is the way in which Christina leaders have solved their problems. I wonder how many of you could think of the reasons why post reformation ch. hist. it would be of more value in this connection than in pre-reformation ch. hist. Would you raise your hand if you could think of a good reason/ It is probably nearer to our conditions than the earlier one, but yet human nature is the same in all periods. And men have had to face similar problems, so I don't think that quite gives us the answer, but that may be a part of it. From 1500 on we have been going back to the Scripture in a way that has not parallel to the previous four centuries, but personally I think that it was the early church, they went back to the Scriptures just as much as we do, but that doesn't quite answer the question either. Yes, there were church splits, and we are going to ~~h~~ have them today, that is not limited to one time alone.

When I was in seminary we took a little church, and they ~~xxx~~ told me there were sixteen pastors and sixteen factions in that church. (laughter) And where ever you get a group that is alive, and following the Lord, you are going to find that the devil is going to try to make a split. Now we find that ~~it~~ it is necessary to make a split over great issues, but once you persuade somebody that it is important to make a split, then you will find that other people ~~xx~~ will want to go ahead and make one over a very very minor point. And the reformation ~~x~~ made plits, but they were just the same before. No one place has plits, but they were through all time. But the reason why we learn more from post-reformation than from pre-reformation ch. hist. about how people have and leaders have solved theri problems, it is tow-fold. (1) less important, because we have a large area of time to cover in pre-reformation ch. hist. we have to cover about 15 centuries, and