

eschatology that are vital to our faith: belief in a future life, belief in the resurrection of the body, etc. You cannot speak of eschatological liberty. Well then somebody suggested that they pass a resolution saying that premillennialism and other view related were equally permissible within the church. John Murray said, he could not vote for that resolution. He said, I'm ready to vote for a resolution that as far as we can see at present premillennialism is not inconsistent with the stand of the church. But if in further study I should come to the conclusion that premillennialism was a heresy I would have to be free then to bring charges against the ministers who held to premillennialism.

That was typical of the attitude that has developed in the OPC. A week and a half ago I spoke in Wilmington in Smick's church(he is one of our graduates). They have over 600 members in that church--they are with the Reformed Presbyterian Church there. He mentioned to me he had gone and visited the OPC presbytery. He said they are fighting over little issues, little tiny matters all the time. When they tried to get the OPC and the Reformed Presbyterian Church to unite at first the OPC were very hesitant about the ~~extra~~ orthodoxy of the Reformed Presbyterians, very hesitant. But there were quite a lot of Westminster graduates who were in the RPC and they hesitated and discussed things over a period of years, and it would take a 2/3 vote of each body to unite and finally about 3 years ago the committee came to an agreement on a basis of union forming one church. At the meeting in Grand Rapids or Pittsburgh(somewhere there) at which the two held their meetings at the same place in the hope they would unite. The OPC which had been the ones holding back, they voted 2/3 to go into the union. But Francis Schaeffer was at the meeting and he got up and made a speech and said if you go into this union within 10 years they will be bringing charges of heresy against some of you. He said with the attitude that is characteristic of them you'd be wise to stay out. The result was that although they got a majority, they did not get the 2/3 and so they did not go into it.

I think the OPC would very much like the union because they don't like that name OPC -- Orthodox. They would much prefer the name Reformed, but the others have