

ber of the current year as in past years the C.C.I.A. staff prepared a memorandum over 60 pages in length wherein the views of the churches were related to about 50 of the items which had been inscribed on the provisional agenda of the 16th session of the United Nations General Assembly."

No one really knows very closely how many members are in the World Council of Churches, but estimates peg the number from 250 to 300,000,000. Archbishop Nikodim of the Russian Orthodox Church stated that there are 50,000,000 members of the Russian Orthodox Church which sounds quite arbitrary and hardly realistic.

### C. Theological Basis or Doctrinal Statements of the World Council of Churches

The full doctrinal basis of the World Council of Churches up until the last Assembly meeting was as follows:

"The World Council of Churches is the fellowship of churches which accepts our Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour."

This statement is quite general and we could hardly disagree with this statement except that the World Council does not actually accept this basis as we have historically recognized Jesus Christ as Lord, God, and Saviour. This so-called doctrinal basis is a piece of deception of the worst kind, using the name of the Lord God in vain in order to represent before the world what the World Council is not. To make matters worse, this doctrinal statement or basis, was changed at New Delhi at the last Assembly. The matter is worse, not because of what the statement itself includes, but because the deception is far greater. The new basis as adopted is as follows:

"The World Council of Churches is a fellowship of Churches which confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and therefore seek to fulfill together their common calling to the glory of the One God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit."

To the doctrinal basis has been added the Scriptures and the Trinity. This statement now includes the deity of Christ, His Lordship, the Holy Scriptures and the Trinity. It does not take much reading or listening to quickly understand that the leaders of the ecumenical movement do not hold to the fundamentals of the faith as they have been understood by the Christian Church down through the ages.

The sham and deception is further understood when we read that this so-called basis is no basis at all since a church may join by interpreting the basis any way it wants. In a pamphlet entitled, "Questions and Answers About the World Council of Churches", published in Geneva this statement is made concerning the basis:

"The World Council has neither the authority nor the competence to question the doctrinal position of the churches so that it remains the responsibility of each church to decide whether it will cooperate on this basis. Some churches have found it impossible to accept this basis."

At New Delhi there were some that disagreed with the basis and yet are members of the World Council of Churches. An example is the Remonstrant Brotherhood of the Netherlands. Assembly Document 53a had this statement,

"We are able to agree to the final words of the proposed basis if they are to be regarded as doxology but we trust that the dogma of the trinity may never be the touchstone of the admittance of churches into the World Council."