

Sundays out of four if you want if you'll get somebody else to preach the other two. So they got this fellow. If I'd known that, maybe I would have said I do the pulpit work. I don't know. I could not. I was there for that purpose. I had money for that purpose to enable me to get this study. I could not do it. He took the other two. I wanted to preach two in a row so there would be continuity, so I would preach and he'd take up the collection. He'd preach and I'd take up the collection. I would preach on salvation through the blood of Christ and on the certainty of the resurrection. As I preached I would see his face writhe in agony. Then he would preach on the glory of the commonplace and how when Jacob crossed over the Jordan(?) he got into the territory of another god-- Chemosh instead of Yahweh who was the god over there. I don't know whether my face showed my feelings as much as his face showed his. One Sunday we were having a cup of chocolate together, and I said, You know this morning your prayer ~~sounded~~ sounded as if you believed in the deity of Christ. It sounded as if you were praying to Christ." He said, I have no difficulty with the deity of Christ." I thought if he has no difficulty with the deity of Christ he must have a different idea of deity than I have. So I said, What do you mean by deity? He said, That's very simple. God is a symbol for ethical values just as Uncle Sam is a symbol for the U.S." I said, How can you pray to a symbol for ethical value? He said, You can talk to a stick or stone; you can address the ocean." That's what he was doing when he led those people in prayer! He was a wonderful chap from a fine Christian background, but the darkness of seven years had taken hold and hold until it had him in its grip. After years of fighting that sort of thing and meeting it and seeing how so many used underhanded schemes to get control and to make their ideas dominant and to destroy the Gospel in the church, you can't think what a joy it is to be in a