

in college, I took a Masters in History at college before I went to Seminary, I studied history in various countries off and on ever since. So I know a good deal about it. But I am very far from giving my whole time to Ch. Hist., my major attention is exegesis, and I believe that is how it should be. In teaching church history in a school which believes that the Bible is God's Word, and that is why we do not give Ch. Hist. a major place in our curriculum. Nevertheless, ch. hist. has a very real importance. It does not have the importances that I have just mentioned, it should not be studied as something which is one of the major purposes of the seminary course, but nevertheless the amount of time that we give to it, two hours a week for two years, is very vital for us. In fact, I would not object if it were possible that in the limited time to add one or two more hours, but not more than that.

But the total that we give, two hours for two years, is very much worthwhile, because there are very definite values for the Christian in the study of ch. hist., sufficient to well be worth having given that much attention in the course of the three years. And I believe that the Christian who does not have a good knowledge of ch. hist. is missing something of extremely great value. Not anywhere near as important as exegesis, as I say, far better give all exegesis and no ch. hist, than a lot of ch. hist. and no exegesis. But second to exegesis, ~~xxxxxxx~~ the study of the Bible in the original, there are very real and very vital values which are to be secured from ch. hist.

Now, I think that to a certain extent these values are negative. ~~xxx~~ But they are negatives which are necessary. They are negatives which are important in understanding how to serve God effectively. Not nearly as important as exegesis, but with a real place here. We look at the world in which we live today. Perhaps I should put the first of these as number v, we study ch. hist. to better understand the world in which we live today. Better to understand the world in which we live today. Now why should we want to understand the world in which we live today? It is an altogether different world from ~~x~~ the world in which Christ lived, and it is altogether