

to cause our major objective to be pushed into the background. The seen things are important. They have their place. But God calls each of us to be ready to overcome all obstacles in order to fulfill these two objectives. To grow in grace ourselves and to bring others to grow in grace. To make sure you are looking to Christ for salvation, that you have been saved, and that you are God's instrument to lead others to come to know Christ.

Those are so important that they come over top all other objectives for the life of the Christian. Yet how easy it is for little catch-words to be made, little catch-words that often conceal thought instead of showing thought. When I was in seminary Dr. Machen was very much aroused over the fact that in Canada three great denominations--the Episcopalians, the Presbyterians, and the Methodists--were uniting into the United Church of Christ to be under modernist direction, unbelieving direction. He himself paid the expenses for a number of our seminary students to go up there in the summer and help some of the little groups of Presbyterians in Canada that refused to go into this union, to help them establish a real Christian witness. Many of them lost their churches.

Many of them, the ministers went in and the people stayed out. We received glowing reports of the way that these fellows had helped. You can imagine what a shock I had 20 years later when I was at a conference and I came into contact with some young people. I found that they belonged to the United Church of Canada. That church--the United Church of Canada--their objective, Oh we must be true to this, we must stand for this.

Then I realized that some of the Presbyterians that Dr. Machen had helped take their separate stand from the United Church of Canada, some of those people had come out not because they opposed the modernism and unbelief but because they felt we just can't give up the name Presbyterian and unite with those of other persuasion. We must maintain the name Presbyterian! Some who help that view were just as modernistic as the leaders of the United Church of Canada!

Today from what little I know of it, both groups--the Presbyterian Church of Canada and the United Church of Canada are to a very large extent modernistically controlled. Catch words! What an effect they can have.

I heard a man say you can go out here on the street corner of a big city and curse Christ. You can damn God. You can say the most terrible things about God and about Christ and nobody will pay any attention to you. But you go out there and start cursing the Presbyterian church, or the Episcopalian church, or the Baptist church and somebody will come up and knock you over! A pretty bad situation when minor things are become major to that extent. When we major on the minors we find our selves minoring on the majors! God wants us to realize the unity of the body of Christ. How much more important it is to be a Christian than to use any of these particular terms which were so important in church development at different times in the past.