

the fact that contrary interpretations of scripture, against which the arrogance was directed, contradicted the pretension of an absolutely valid interpretation. For they proved that men interpreted Scripture variously, according to the variety of social and historical perspectives from which they severally approached it. PAGE 229.

But how  
about  
Jn 14:6?  
Ax 4:12?

Purpose of  
the Ref.  
was to  
teach the  
way to  
heaven, not  
first to  
mitigate  
"pride".

Authority  
of Bible is  
from God,  
it is not  
man-made.

In short, the intolerance of the Reformation is the consequence of a violation of its own doctrinal position. Its doctrine of justification by faith presupposed the imperfection of the redeemed. Logically this includes the imperfection of "redeemed" knowledge and wisdom. Its intolerant fanaticism sprang from its failure to apply this insight to the cultural problem so that it would mitigate the spiritual pride of man. Its actions thus proved its theory to be correct; but they also revealed it to be ineffective. It is a theory which must not only be apprehended by the mind but which must enter into the heart and break its pride. The authority of the Bible was used to break the proud authority of the church; whereupon the Bible became another instrument of human pride. The secularists may be pardoned if, as they watch this curious drama, they cry "a plague o' both your houses"; and if they come to the conclusion that all ladders to heaven are dangerous. It must be observed, however, that these ladders cannot be disavowed so simply as the secularists imagine. Pride may ascend the ladder which was meant for the descent of grace; but that is a peril which inheres in the whole human cultural enterprise. The secularists end by building ladders of their own; or they wallow in a nihilistic culture which has no vantage point from which "my" truth can be distinguished from "the" truth. ~~END~~ PAGE 231.