

Dr. Adolph Harnack who many said was the greatest of theologians Germany had ever produced was giving a series of public lectures that fall and that this would be the last series of lectures he was expected ever to give. It was an opportunity not to be missed so I signed up for these lectures.

One time I spoke with Prof. Harnack and he told me that his book THE ESSENTIAL MEANING OF CHRISTIANITY-- a book that was translated into English under the title WHAT IS CHRISTIANITY?-- had just been translated into Islandic, when perhaps the 50th language into which it had been translated it expressed the general liberal view of the last century toward Christianity. He said that at one time a whole building == depot connected with the railroad had been given over to copies of this book, so many thousands of it had been printed and circulated all over the world in many different languages.

The student who told me about the opportunity of hearing these lectures by this famous theologian mentioned a German custom with ==of which I had not then heard. He said that a person was free to go into the ~~class~~ classroom and place his visiting card ==fasten his visiting card to a seat with a statement of the particular class that he was going to attend. Then, he said, that it would be understood that in that class this seat belonged to the man who had put his visiting card there. I went along with ~~xxx~~ a number of other graduates of other American theological ~~sem-inaries~~ seminaries to the large room where the lectures were to be given and we found that it was a room that would seat several hundred people, all of whom would sit at small desks such as we had in grammar school when I was a student. I placed my card on a seat in the very front row and other American students were seated on both sides of me.

The ~~xxx~~ subject of our next series of lectures was the canon of the NT° One day I got to class and found that the fellows sitting on both sides of me were not present. This left me rather isolated at this place in the front row.