

As you might suppose there are more of these bodies and at the rate organizations come and go some of these may have died already while others were freshly born. But you will see that the separatist ideology is not without voice even though when talking to some today you might get the idea that they have or had only one voice. Our own importance is never more meaningless than when expressed with our own tongues.

D. An analysis of Non-Separatist but Evangelical reaction

1. Some General Concepts

This segment of our material is more difficult than the former as it has many ramifications and aspects with a lot of uncertain sounds. It has powerful appeal, however, and some great Christians have worked this way. The general historical data is the same as for our previous notations on separatism and it is not necessary to repeat this. For the most part, non-separatism has chosen to continue to work within an organism in the hope of life and the achievement of revival.

As noted earlier, non-separatists often get pushed to the point of separation. Their ideal of harmonistic working is shattered by the pushiness of modern unbelief and also by their own disillusionment at what those teachings actually impart. But the reverse is rarely true (that those who are separatist in ideal find in necessary to work in the older medium) as the impact of separation and the emotional thrust therein involved are rarely affected by reversal. Separatist moves sometimes die of stagnation but rarely of reversal.

2. Biblical ideals cited in non-separatist thinking

Any attempt to understand these movements must come to grips with the following ideas and most of them are common in all the subscribing circles. We do not mean to minimize these items but we do think they are often eisegeted to avoid an unpleasant alternative course.

- a. The church is one and should not be divided politically and begun anew over and over.
- b. The nature of love that brethren should feel towards one another should inhibit their being schismatic or working in strife. The secondary application of this goes to the community of the total church of profession.
- c. Peace is the great pre-requisite for continuing the work of the great Commission.
- d. Only the Lord can fully reform the church and until He comes we can only seek to be faithful in our own connexions. It is not possible to divide the wheat and the tares in our age.