

apostate bodies and form sound, evangelical witnesses for God's truths? The real answer to a question like this does not depend on Calvin but the Scripture in its positive and definite teaching. Nevertheless, it is interesting to see how men of greatness have interpreted and acted upon the Scripture and whether they have or have not seen the Scriptures as we see them today.

This is particularly true of Calvin since a great impetus and thrust has been given to the Separatist movement from Reformed ecclesiastical circles. It is more interesting than to speculate as to how the great perpetuator of the testimony of Jesus would react concerning our present situation. A study along this line is made mandatory by the attitude of some who, seeing the broadness of Calvin's view of the Church, misinterpret it to make him stand against a separated testimony. Some would have it believed that Calvin felt the Church ought to continue as a united body, regardless of what it manifested or upheld, as long as somewhere in its official statements the Gospel might be found in a creedal form.

This view is expressed in the work by Dr. Edward John Carnell; The Case for Orthodox Theology. Carnell cites Calvin as proposing an argument against ecclesiastical separation by stating that, in Calvin's language "unfaithful ministers do not render the Church apostate." A further quotation from Calvin is given to point out that the Old Testament prophets did not separate from Israel, or did not separate from the temple