

case of inverted reasoning. Rather than have a concerted thrust against the forces of liberalism, et al, many believers have sought to have a "stand" of their own. It makes great divergence of expression and the fragmentation often minimizes the total effect. You will see it today in the protest movements against immoral television, etc. It seems that every protestor must have one's own group. We might note that some para-church agencies have succeeded right well, but even these menace many brethren who feel the need for a stand and system of their own.

f. The danger of fighting fire with fire...

The fear is that if the ecumenical forces are monsters we must do everything possible not to become monsters ourselves. We would not criticize this except that in trying to avoid an evil extreme, we may fall into another equally evil predicament on the other side of the ledger.

No doubt other factors may be adduced but these are the ones I have observed most frequently. The employment of them seems to be one of the devices of the enemy for keeping the people of God inept and ineffective in causes of truth exposure.

2. Separatist moves and ideals

The bulk of this has been carried by individual groups and by two bodies on a broader scale: the American Council of Christian Churches and the International Council of Christian Churches. Recently the former has suffered from considerable division while the latter has suffered with general ineffectiveness in the USA in particular. Another fundamentalist coalition body has developed and there have been numerous individual and denominational efforts.

a. The American Council

The attempt of the old FCC to gain control of radio broadcasting and military chaplaincy made it apparent that some form of evangelical witness was needed to countermand these moves. The 30's saw something of an end to the modernist/fundamentalist debates and the beginning of an entrenchment for the coming years. It was not realized that entrenchment was not enough, an active campaign was needed to maintain evangelical interest.

As the problem surged into the public limelight, a number of conferences were held to look for some common interest action. J. Elwyn Wright conducted a number in the 1939-1941 bracket to experimentally suggest some sort of evangelical alliance. His work would eventually produce the National Association of Evangelicals.