Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the only infallible rule of faith and practice. Dr. Blake's exaltation of tradition to a high position and lowering of the Scriptures to a lower place constitute a major attack upon the authority of the Scriptures in the life of the church.

11. "Open-Ended" Bible

The trustworthiness of the Bible was openly rejected in an address before the Christian Education Assembly of the Triennial General Assembly of the National Council of Churches in San Francisco, December 5, 1960. The NCC's press release says:

"An authority on the Bible said here today 'there is a sense in which the Bible is still "an open-ended book."'

"The Rev. Dr. J. Carter Swaim, executive director of the Department of English Bible of the National Council of Churches said '20th century Christians ought to be writing new chapters in the "Acts of the Holy Spirit."'"

Swaim is the author of a book, *Where Our Bible Came From,"* which the NCC is promoting. Swaim offers a complete rearrangement, redating, and reevaluation of the documents of Holy Scripture. He is not exactly sure how many Isaiahs there were and there is certainly one "unknown prophet" who has contributed to Isaiah! And Daniel did not write at the time that he is reported to have written in his Book, Swaim actually says, "Some now hold that the four great sources were not really literary units and can themselves be resolved into component parts: J^1 and J^2 (or L—for Lay source—and J; or S—for South—and J) and E^1 and E^2 (the original E supplemented by later writers having a similar point of view)" (p. 19). He is talking here about the composition of the Pentateuch, which Jesus Christ indicated came from Moses.

12. Many "Myths"

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S., Southern, now accepts the "myths" in the Bible.

John Wicklein, reporting in the New York *Times* of May 15, 1962, from Winston-Salem, N. C., May 14, wrote:

"Fundamentalists in the Southern Presbyterian Church who believe Adam and Eve existed tried today to suspend publication of an official Bible commentary that says the couple were a myth.

"Their efforts set off an hour's floor debate that harked back to the Literalist - Modernist arguments of the Twenties. At the end, they were soundly defeated. The vote in the General Assembly was:

Modernists, 323, Literalists, 74. . . . The Rev. Dr. Dwight Chalmer, book editor of the John Knox Press, said the best modern Biblical scholarship made it impossible to accept all parts of the Bible as literally true. Truths of faith can be made through myth and parable, he indicated, and the Commentary attempts to make this clear."

13. The Bible Versus Jesus

The editorial in the June, 1962, issue of the *Adult Teacher,* official publication of The Methodist Church, under the heading, "The Authority of the Bible," says, "It is correct therefore to say, not 'The Bible is my authority,' but 'Jesus is my authority.'" The editor has explained that the fallible men who wrote the Bible "were limited by prejudices, hates, fears. For example, the 'imprecatory Psalms,' such as Psalm 109, do not reveal awareness of the mind and spirit of God."

So the new position is that we must put Jesus over against the Bible, and the Jesus of modern reconstruction cannot accept all of the Bible. But the Christ of the Scriptures said, "It is written," and He quoted literal Scripture to the Devil and silenced him.

14. Southern Baptist Battle Over Bible

The press of the country in June, 1962, reported the Southern Baptist Convention in San Francisco in such terms: "Book Stirs Storm at Baptist Meet," "'Imagery' Controversy Hits Baptist Session," "Baptists Affirm Faith in 'Infallible' Bible," "Theological Storm Breaks Over Southern Baptists."

It all had to do with a book by Ralph Elliott, a Baptist Seminary teacher in Kansas City who really lambasted the sacred Book. He wrote, "We must learn to think of the stories of Genesis — the Creation, the Fall, Noah's Ark, the Tower of Babel . . . in the same way as we think of the parables of Jesus; they are profoundly symbolical . . . stories, which aren't to be taken as literally true." Again, "It would appear, then, that in verse 19 Melchizedek was blessing Abram by the Baal, whom Melchizedek considered to be the highest god of the city state at Salem."

15. An Infallible Bible?

Presbyterian Outlook, December 24, 1962, featured on its cover quotations from four theologians from four leading Southern seminaries, "Do We Need an Infallible Bible?" The schools were Louisville, Columbia, Austin, and Richmond. All the professors agreed that the Bible could no longer be accepted as the infallible Word of God.

These are just a few of the many accumulating

attacks that preceded the Supreme Court's decision to put the Bible out of the public schools.

The Lord Jesus Christ said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matt. 24:35). The Apostle Peter assured us that "the word of the Lord endureth for ever" (1 Pet. 1:25). "God is not a man that he should lie" (Num. 23:19). The true Christian believes the Bible to be the Word of God upon the authority of the Lord Himself, and with the support of all the credible witnesses and the testimony of Scripture itself.

Jesus Christ accepted the Old Testament, and we accept the New Testament on His authority, too.

These attacks mean that the Christian today must not be a part of or support the churches, the agencies, the councils, which in any way reflect upon the truthfulness of the Word of God. The Bible is and forever will be the infallible Word of God.

The Bible, and the Bible alone, tells us that there is a Heaven and that Jesus Christ came to earth for the purpose of dying for sin and then giving to us, by faith, the treasure of everlasting life. Jesus Christ arose from the dead.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Yes, there is the commandment, "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing" (2 Cor. 6:17). The churches and agencies that have cast despite upon the Word of God and are exalting the words and the opinions of men are indeed unclean things.

Thus we have a Twentieth Century Reformation Movement developing and growing, with Bible-believing churches being established on every hand. Join one of them, my friend, and help send the true Gospel to the ends of the earth in obedience to the commands of Christ.

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