



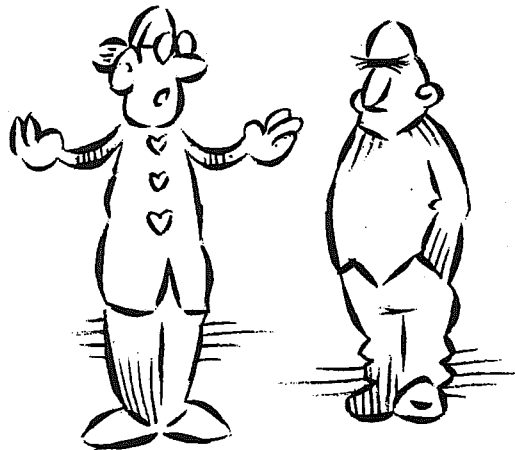
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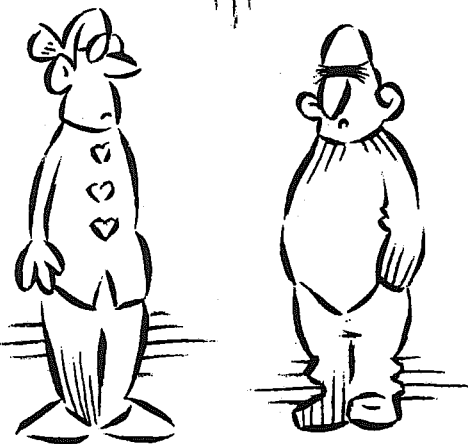
A Quarterly for Church Leadership

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WHY? WHY IS IT THAT THE
CHRISTIAN ARMY IS THE ONLY
ONE THAT WOUNDS ITS OWN?
WHY CAN'T WE LIVE IN HARMONY
AND UNITY AND OVERCOME
OUR DIFFERENCES?
WHY, I ASK YOU, WHY?



WHY DON'T YOU
JUST BE QUIET
AND LEAVE ME
ALONE?



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A SELECT ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

John H. Armstrong

- *Bloesch, Donald G. *The Reform of the Church*. Eugene, Oregon: Wipf & Stock Publishers, 1998 reprint. The final chapter deals with Christian unity. Bloesch is one of our best writers on the doctrine of evangelical catholicity.
- *Bloesch, Donald G. *The Future of Evangelical Christianity: A Call for Unity Amid Diversity*. Colorado Springs: Helmers & Howard, 1988. This title addresses the issues of unity even more directly than the previous one by Bloesch.
- *Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *Life Together*. New York: Harper, 1954. This is the finest treatment of Christian unity in real life situations of Church community I know. I often read excerpts from it at communion services to help our congregation prepare for the table.
- Braaten, Carl E. and Robert W. Jenson, editors. *The Catholicity of the Reformation*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996. This excellent collection of essays argues that "catholicity" was the true intent of the Protestant Reformers, who wanted to renew the "one, holy catholic and apostolic church."
- Bridge, Donald and David Phypers. *The Waters That Divide: A Survey of the Doctrine of Baptism*. Inverness, Scotland: Christian Focus Publications, 1998 reprint. The authors, one a Baptist and the other an Anglican, provide one of the finest discussions of baptism available to evangelicals.
- *Bromiley, G. W. *The Unity and Disunity of the Church*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1958. Bromiley, a longtime professor of theology at Fuller Seminary, is one of our best theologians in terms of the doctrine of the Church. He covers all the important subjects related to unity in this little book.

- Dulles, Avery. *The Catholicity of the Church*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1985. A solid academic treatment by a Catholic scholar who recently became a cardinal of the Roman Church.
- Flew, R. Newton and Rupert E. Davies. *The Catholicity of Protestantism*. Philadelphia: Muhlenberg Press, 1950. An important out-of-print volume which argues that catholicity means, in the first place, the presence of the living Christ.
- *Frame, John M. *Evangelical Reunion: Denominations and the One Body of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1991. Frame wrestles honestly with the big questions. His approach is unusual for conservative Presbyterian writers and quite refreshing.
- Gunton, Colin. E. and Daniel W. Hardy, editors. *On Being the Church: Essays on the Christian Community*. Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1989. Essays from six first-rate scholars on the nature of the Church. The chapter on the ecclesiology of the Reformers is worth the book.
- Hutcheson, Richard G., Jr. and Peggy Shriver. *The Divided Church: Moving Liberals & Conservatives from Diatribe to Dialogue*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1999. The authors of this book come from different perspectives, one a conservative Evangelical in the mainline and the other a liberal Christian who serves the National Council of Churches. A model for communication and dialogue that is meaningful.
- *Koivisto, Rex A. *One Lord, One Faith: A Theology for Cross-Denominational Renewal*. Wheaton: Bridgepoint, 1993. This is the finest full-scale treatment of the subject of Church unity by an evangelical theologian.
- Lewis, C. S. *Mere Christianity*. New York: Macmillan, 1952. This "classic" is most related to the subject of unity for the way Lewis argues for what he calls "mere" Christianity. By this he means a common faith core that all historic Christian expressions can honestly affirm.
- *McNeill, John T. *Unitive Protestantism: The Ecumenical Spirit*

- and Its Protestant Expression*. Richmond, Virginia: John Knox Press, 1964. McNeill, a Church historian and Calvin scholar, was active in earlier stages of the ecumenical movement in the twentieth century.
- Meyer, Harding. *That All May Be One: Perceptions and Models of Ecumenicity*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999. The decades of struggle for ecumenicity are surveyed and explained well by Meyer, a research professor and director of the Institute for Ecumenical Research in Strasbourg, France.
- Milne, Bruce. *We Belong Together: The Meaning of Fellowship*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1978. What does Christian fellowship really mean and how can it lead to real unity? Milne, a Baptist minister, addresses these issues with clarity.
- Nee, Watchman, Warren Litzman and Gene Edwards. *Church Unity: Believers Becoming One . . . How to Get There*. Auburn Maine: The Seed Sowers, 1991. This collection of several pieces on Christian unity is compelling and helpful.
- *Newbigin, Lesslie. *Is Christ Divided? A Plea for Christian Unity in a Revolutionary Age*. This is one of the most stirring calls for unity written in the twentieth century.
- Newbigin, Lesslie. *The Reunion of the Church*. London: SCM Press, 1960. For those who have not yet encountered the work of the late Lesslie Newbigin this book will come as a surprise. This work grew out of the practical pastoral work of unity in the Church of South India.
- Niebuhr, H. Richard. *The Social Sources of Denominationalism*. New York: Meridian, 1957 reprint. An important book for any serious attempt to grapple with the Protestant idea in historical reality.
- Radner, Ephraim. *The End of the Church: A Pneumatology of Christian Division in the West*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998. Radner, an Anglican priest and theologian, provides a serious and engaging assessment of division in the West.
- *Schaeffer, Francis A. *The Mark of the Christian* in volume 4 of *The Complete Works of Francis A. Schaeffer*. Wheaton:

Crossway Books, 1982 (five volumes). This small book, now a kind of evangelical classic, had a great impact upon my own sectarian spirit more than thirty years ago.

Van Gelder, Craig. *The Essence of the Church: A Community Created by the Spirit*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2000. A call to rethink the Church as a community of people governed by the Word and led by the Spirit.

Vassady, Bela. *Christ's Church: Evangelical, Catholic, and Reformed*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1965. Vassady, who taught at Fuller Seminary in the early years of the school helped earlier Evangelicals to keep alive this important understanding of the Christian Church.

*Webber, Robert. *Common Roots: A Call to Evangelical Maturity*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1978. This is, beyond question, one of the most important, and well-written, evangelical treatments of the past twenty-five years.

*Yrigoyen, Charles, Jr. and George H. Bricker. *Catholic and Reformed: The Selected Theological Writings of John Williamson Nevin*. Pittsburgh: Pickwick Press, 1978. This is a gold mine for classical Reformed writing on the catholicity of the Church. Nevin, a German Reformed scholar, is my nineteenth-century mentor for the study of unity.

* Highly Recommended

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

GALATIANS 3:28

It is not in numbers but in unity that our great strength lies.

THOMAS PAINE

We can find common ground only by moving to higher ground.

JIM WALLIS