

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE

on NEUTRALITY

Dear Editor:

The staff of the Chronicle frequently reminds us that your mission is report the news of what is happening among our churches, not to promote a specific point of view. If you were just reporting about Tweedle Dum and Tweedle Dee, such a stand would be commendable. You however, are the largest paper circulated among us and by sheer weight of circulation the most influential.

A powerful movement is at work to change and reshape the doctrine, worship and practice of our churches. If successful, we will cease to be the church of Christ our fathers knew. We will cease to be a church patterned after the church found in Scripture. Instead, we will devolve into a human denomination as worthless as hundreds of other man-made churches.

To stand neutral in this hour of conflict is like the mother who stands by and watches as one of her children inflicts serious harm on the other. It is like those liberal thought-leaders who remained neutral in the great contest between Democracy and Communism. It is like those secular reporters who wish to be neutral in the mortal struggle between our nation and the Islamic radicals.

In times of crisis, neutrality, at best, is a sign of weakness. Joseph Hall well said, that “Neutrality in things good or evil is both odious and prejudicial.” Thomas Williams correctly observed, that “professed neuters on religious subjects are always false and faithless in reality.” A good newspaper can promote the good and decry the bad. I plead with you to use your powerful influence for the welfare of the church for which our Lord died.

John Waddey