

Address to Bantu Federation

Christianity and Socialism

1950

Intro: I have come to you as an interested minister of one of the Afr. churches (N.G.K.) because I wished to learn more of the whole background and message of the so-called Separatist churches (wrong name - "Separation" more apt)!

② Because I realize something of the importance of closer contact between all Christians of all Churches and all races especially in S.A. today and therefore my presence here this afternoon must be seen as a witness and affirmation of my sincere desire for closer unity.

Therefore, ~~the~~ ^{the} Bible as foundation for Christian and church life must be seen as necessary for spiritual and spiritual growth.
 New can this be achieved? I believe that this can only become possible when we start with the following:

I The Bible must be seen by all as the Word of God:

Through the fact that the Gospel of J.X. was brought to S.A. by the whites, the wrong idea arose in minds of the indigenous peoples that the Bible was the book of the white man, the Christian religion the religion ^{of} ~~of~~ the white man, the Chr. church the organization ^{of} ~~of~~ the white man. This wrong impression has had fatal effects in the mis. labours of the

Christian church and must be rectified:

The Bible does not belong to white or non-white, East or West, civilised or uncivilised - it is the property of God - His voice, His message to the whole world of all times and ages, to all people ~~and their~~

God does not have a special Bible for whites etc. or non-whites, special seat in heaven for any special racial or social or cultural group or race or status or social standing. (lal.)

Therefore: ① Bible as foundation for Christian and Church

② Study of Bible abs. necessary for insight in truth and spiritual growth, as well as full and clear picture of Christ and Holy Spirit as within its own

③ Study by ministers, preachers and spiritual leaders (course in Bibl. theology by T. E. L. S.) witnesses to those without

④ Explanation & discussion with members of church and group led and guided by informed leader

The Church must be seen as the people of God

Truth of I that we discern in the B what God has meant that his Church should be: the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12), the elect people (1 Petr. 2:9), the chosen race, bound in love to Christ the Head and in mutual love to one another.

1) In this Church Christ is the Head and we are all his servants

2) In this Church there must be no separation on grounds of colour or race or status or social standing. (Gal. 3:11)

The differences are not wiped out or ignored but they become subject to the greater spiritual unity in Christ. Nobody ~~may~~ be excluded from any Church except on grounds of faith and order

3) How this C. functions within its own borders

③ Study by ministers, teachers and spiritual leaders (cause in Bibl. theology)

4) How this C. witnesses to those without its precincts.

④ Instruction & discussion with men (Paul in his letters) led and guided by informed leaders

- Chr. Report Anti-Sectarian
- III Unity must be sought as God's will for his Church:
- Now to you as an interested member
one of the Af. churches (N.G.K.) because I wished
- 1) Our sinful divisions in our recognised churches
- the influence it had had on your churches
name - Separation more apt).
 - 2) The sister unity which Christ demands and prays for
close contact between all Christians of all
 - 3) The nature of that unity really in S.A. to-day and therefore my presence here this afternoon must be seen as a witness and affirmation of my sincere desire for closer unity.
 - 4) The ways in which this unity can be furthered only become possible when we start with the following:

I The Bible must be seen by all as the Word of God.

- IV God's Holy Spirit must be seen as the Initiator of all life and Power.
- brought to us by the wrong teaching
arose in minds of the indigenous peoples that the Bible was the book of the white man, the Christian religion the religion of the white man, the Christian church the organization of the white man'. This wrong impression has had fatal effects in the minds, labours of the