

deal with matters of faith. It has an elaborate ritual. It has altars, chaplains, and burial services. It has a code: a system of morals. The religion of Freemasonry and every other religion is false, a religion without Christ, as Redeemer, a religion of salvation by good works. The Lodge has rightly been called Satan's substitute for the Church. A rival of true Christianity. A deadly enemy of the Church.

Questions: What would you say about high school and college fraternities and sororities? Are there any true Christians in the Lodge? Is it morally right for a seceding lodge-member to reveal the secrets of the Lodge? Do you think there are lodge-members in our Chr. Ref. churches? Will refusal to join a Lodge "keep a good man down" in the business-world? What would you say about the young man who refuses to join merely "because his Church won't allow it"?

For reference books consult your church library, or write to the National Chr. Association, 850 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

DECEMBER 19, 1922

CALVINISM AS A LIFE- AND WORLD-VIEW

(1) This subject is broad enough for a series of essays. But there is a great advantage in knowing what the controlling principle is or principles of the system of thought which is linked with the name of the great reformer. Later on we hope to present several outlines dealing with subjects that fall under this head.

(2) Why call ourselves "Calvinists". Why not simply "Christians"? There are various types of Christian thought. Every christian must be of a certain type.

(3) **General characteristics:**

a) Calvinism is a real life- and world-view. This is not true of all Christian systems. Methodism, for example, is merely soteriological, that is, it concerns itself simply with the question: how we must be saved? It is not broad enough to comprehend the whole of life. In a life- and world-view an answer is given to the most fundamental questions of man's soul: **Whence** are all things? **What** are all things? What is man's relation to God, to his fellowman and to the world in general? What is the **purpose and end** of all things? These questions can not be answered apart from Scripture. The Bible begins with the story of creation, not with sin and redemption.

b) Calvinism, being a life- and world-view, does not make a "hobby" of a certain truth or truths (real or supposed) to the practical exclusion of other truths, as for example, Baptists, Adventists, Millennialists, etc. It strives to in-

A GIFT--

that brings joy to
the whole family

A Gas Table Lamp

"The Light for
Young People's
Eyes"

We have a good
selection of very
beautiful Lamps.

Priced upward from
\$16.75. Terms if de-
sired.

THE GAS COMPANY

47 Division Ave. N.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

The Day of Visual Instruction Is Here

We Sell

Stereopticon Lanterns
Opaque Projectors
separate, or combined
with Stereopticon Ma-
chines

Motion Picture Machines
for Home, School, or Church

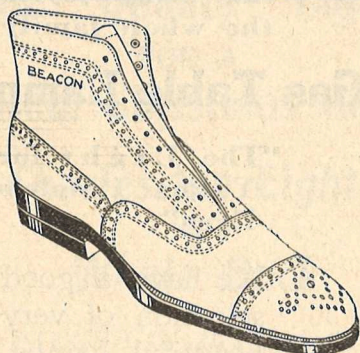
A Wonderful Library of Films
at reasonable rental

FREE CATALOGS
FREE DEMONSTRATIONS
WE MAKE LANTERN SLIDES

THE CAMERA SHOP, Inc.

16 Monroe Ave.
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

BEACON SHOES



SNAPPY STYLES

FOR YOUNG MEN

\$5 AND **\$6**

NONE HIGHER
BOEREMA'S
SHOE STORE

853-855 GRANDVILLE AVENUE

J. H. LABES,
THE JEWELER

Going out of Business. Doctor's orders. I am forced to close out my \$10,000 stock. 25% off on every dollar. We will hold your purchases until Christmas.

Come in for one of our Beautiful Calendars.
1436 GRANDVILLE AVE.

FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS
in the line of MEN'S FURNISHINGS
we suggest-COME and SEE

H. HULST

1045 Grandville Ave. N.W.
"HE HAS THE BEST!"

clude all revealed truth in its system. It is not sectarian. All truths, however, are not equally important. Therefore in Calvinism certain truths receive more emphasis than others. The Calvinist endeavors to follow Scripture in the placing and distribution of his emphasis.

(4) Calvinism in the narrower sense is Reformed Doctrine.

a) In a formal sense the Calvinist stands for the Bible as the only and sufficient inspired rule of faith and conduct.

b) In a material sense he emphasizes Predestination, Total Depravity, Particular Atonement, Regeneration and the Perseverance of the Saints (see the Five Canons of Dordt).

(5) Calvinism in the wider sense, as a life- and world-view, emphasizes the sovereignty of God. "Of God, thru God and unto God are all things." All things exist for His sake. Even man's salvation is but a means to an end, viz., the glorification of His Name—Calvinism emphasizes the antithesis, that is, the essential and, in principle, absolute contrast between the Church and World. But this doctrine is balanced by that of common grace. God restrains His wrath against the wicked, checks sin in the human heart and thus makes it possible for the regenerate to live in this world, side by side with the unregenerate.—Calvinism teaches that the natural life is not in itself sinful, but neither does it constitute a sphere independent from the sphere of grace, a realm distinct from that of religion. In Family, State, Science, Art, Industry, and in all other domains of life, the christian must live from the principle of special grace. We must be christians in all these spheres as well as in the Church.

(6) Does the idea of God's sovereignty exclude that of His love? Why do Calvinism and Humanism stand squarely opposed to each other? Can you name other life- and world-views?

References—Dr. Abraham Kuyper: Calvinism, (Stone Lectures).

BE SURE TO GET VREDEVOOGD BROTHERS' PRICES ON HOUSE FURNISHINGS

They Invite Comparison

Save You Money

1422-25 GRANDVILLE AVENUE
BOTH PHONES