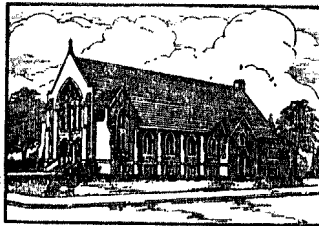


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CHURCH PHONE, HUMBOLDT 5813

October 29, '31.

Professor Karl Barth, D.D.
The University of Bonn,
Bonn,
Germany.

My Dear Professor Barth,

I esteem it an honor to direct a letter to one who has helped me greatly in my theological struggle, and whom I admire very greatly. I have been an ardent disciple of yours for six years and am now thirty one. I have for some time now sought to bring your "Korrektive" to a number of ministers and have to date spoken to about 300. Everywhere I go the ministry is anxious to hear about you and some word of challenge to bring them out of their bankruptcy of Protestantism. In America where the Church has been forced to propagate itself, we have gone to extremes of anthropocentricity. It has made out of Christianity a mere psychology of religion, and theology has been diluted into a mere synthetic sociology. Trends in Philosophy are rapidly going into a new Realism, in which the Object is sought within the subjective experience. Physics and mathematics has gone far in their trends towards Irrationalism, but seek to solve the solution by an unwarranted Idealism, which has no basis in REVELATION! Gerade DA ist der Kampf!! Ich denke dass wir zuerst unser Bankerrottsein erfahren und ERKENNEN müssen ehe wir Gott wieder angreifen können. Die Kirche steht einer Krisis vor, und es kann sein dass wir unsere Fehler erst ernten müssen. Glaubwürdige Statistiken sagen uns dass bloss 20 % der Gliederschafft unserer Kirchen regelmässig den Gottesdienst besuchen! Und die Kirche hat Ihre Stimme als Oracle Gottes verloren, weil sie so ängstlich war das ganze Volk zu sich ziehen wollte mit einem verdünnten Evangelium!! Die Lehranstalten der Kirche sind, statt Aktiva Passiva, sie graben unter das kirchliche Gebäude. Was draus wird, weiss man jetzt noch nicht, aber dass es eine Liquidation gibt kann ein jeder der sehen WILL sehen.

Ministers are anxiously reading your Word of God and Word of Man, but find it difficult unless they can be helped. But for a long time it was one of the best selling books. Hoyle is read very much and now McConnachie's book is read a great deal. Professor Wilhelm Pauck of the University of Chicago has a book out on "Karl Barth", and it is the most scholarly. He was one of your

(Kurzlich
herausgegeben)

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pupils, - but he writes from the point of view of Tillmach!
I am afraid that too many Americans are reading you to
learn your SYSTEM! Ich habe Ihnen oft gesagt, der
Professor weiss kein System!! Der will nichts wissen von
der Logik der Schulen, sonder von der Logik des Lebens!
Logik des Lebens bricht durch aller Logik! Das suchen nach
Gott ist Wunder und weiss nichts von Intellectuellen
Konsistenz!! Das kann Mann lesen in Paulus, Augustine,
and besonders in Luther.

I want you to know that I am a friend of
Professor Ernst's who was my professor for four years at the
Mission House, and we still correspond. He wrote me this
morning about a request which I want to make of you in this
letter. I am also intimately acquainted with Dr Richards,
Professor Petersman of St. Louis is also an ardent Barthian
and the number is growing especially in the Seminaries.
I wish I could devote my time to traveling around speaking
before student groups, who are eager to hear REALITY. It is
interesting to see that right in Chicago University Prof.
Pauck and Dr. Douglas Horton are at work!! Ich habe in
Chicago studiert, und weiss die Psychologische u. Sociologische
Sache die sie treiben als Theologie!!

Ich moechte gern dass Sie einmahl nach
Amerika kamen!! Es kann sein dass die "reformierte Kirche
Ihnen eine herzliche Einladung geben," oder haben Sie schon?

Now as to my request. I have been asked
by THE PULPIT, leading sermon magazine of the U.S. to
furnish them with a sermon of yours. To date not one sermon
of yours has appeared in English in America. I submitted them
a translation of your "Es Werden Zeichen Geschehen", but their
Christmas number was filled, so they asked me to furnish
another. Yesterday I finished translating "Der Armer
Lazarus", which was published in the Biblische Zeugnisse.
Now I wrote Pastor Schumacher for permission to publish
"Der Arme Lazarus", and am writing you whether you would
also give me your kind permission? And I would like to
send "Es Werden Zeichen Geschehen" to one of our Reformed
periodicals, - may I be permitted? Then Professor Ernst
thought I ought to send for permission to translate that
Easter sermon in Komm Schoepfer Geist!! Would you also
grant me permission to do that? I wrote Pastor Schumacher that
wenn etwas Geld draus wird werde Ich es so fort an Ihnen
schicken (Schumacher). Oder soll Ich das Geld an Ihnen (Prof.
Barth) schicken? Gewoehnlich sind die Predigten frei gegeben.

Oder wenn sie eine Predigt an Mir
schicken wollten um sie zu uebersetzen, als eine neue
Predigt die Sie an den Amerikanischen Pastoren richten
wollten das waere auch gut. Mein Deutsch ist so schlecht dass
Ich kaum probiere, aber Ich weiss Eure Geduligkeit!!

I look forward to the time when I can come
to Bonn to study with you. The uncertainty of the times,
my family of three children and other things make it difficult.
In the university of our city we have a seminar on the Theology
of Crisis, and I sit in to keep them from making Barthianism a
theological system! I wonder if it would be too much trouble to
give me some words as to courses for next Spring, costs, etc.?
I might come. With best wishes to you and yours, and trusting
I may have a reply at your convenience, I beg to remain,

Most cordially yours,

E.G. Homrighausen TH.D.

when the sermon appears I will have a copy
mailed you, with some comments.
E.G.H.

3. wish versa.