

28, WINDSOR STREET

DUNDEE.

13 Nov . 1930

Dear Professor Barth,

I carried away warm memories from Bonn of your great kindness to me, and also of the kindness of your wife. My memory especially of the day when you invited me to lunch, and I had the pleasure of seeing your home and children, is a thing I deeply treasure.

We had a pleasant holiday in the Tyrol after we left Bonn but I had some days in bed before I left Bonn having caught a chill on the Rhine. Indeed I had to lie up the very day after I had lunch with you.

It is not easy for me with a large city church to find time for reading and study but I am trying to read along the lines suggested by you. I am also trying to make the ministers of our Church acquainted with your work, because I feel very strongly that you can help us in Scotland, and especially help our preachers.

This week I went north and spoke to a gathering of ministers-what we call here a theological club- at Brechin. They were very interested, and put questions to me all of which I fear I could not answer. I have also agreed to go to Edinburgh and speak to a similar gathering of ministers.

Through your book "The word of God and the word of Man" as it is called in the translation, and Brunner's "The theology of Crisis" and the recently published book by Birch Hoyle on "The Teaching of Karl Barth" ministers are becoming familiar with your teaching, and feel that there is help in it for them.

Your Christology, and your view of the Old Testament and your apparent depreciation of the Jesus of history are the three points that seem to arise chiefly, here as I suppose in Germany.

The book by Birch Hoyle is not against you as you had been told, though it has criticisms at the end, but it is not felt to be a very good book. It is written by a Presbyterian minister who has had to leave the pulpit, through voice trouble, and has taken to writing, for a livelihood. The book has too much the impression of having been worked up to order. But it does help men who have no German.

Dr Hutton the Editor of the British Weekly asked me to give him an article, suitable for his Literature and Life Column.

It appears this week and I am sending you a copy. I hope that you will not take it badly that I have written this personal sketch, and that you will not too violently disagree with it!

I trust that you all had a good holiday and that you are all well and fit, and that the work of the Chair prospers.

My wife has now no immediate relatives in Bonn, though the family still have the house in Argelanderstr. Her father who is now in his 90th year lives with a sister of my wife's in Rheinbach near Bonn, where my brother in law is Protestant Pfarrer in the large prison, and has also Bonn under his care, so far as its prisoners are concerned.

With warmest regards and thanks for your kindness to me,

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Yours very sincerely,

*John Mc Connachie*