

most important to realize this. Yes, I am serious."

2. "Does the Christian Reformed Church base its synodical decisions, sermonizing, consistorial decisions, and Christian life on an errant and fallible Bible?"

Answer: "No, it does not. It bases them on the inerrant, infallible Word of God -- the originals. It has always distinguished between the autographa and the apographa, between the original writings that the Holy Spirit inspired and the countless copies and translations that are based on the original.... Only what was written by men inspired by the Holy Spirit is infallible. Only what Jeremiah, David, Paul and Peter actually wrote is inspired."

3. "When the Belgic Confession characterizes Scripture as 'this infallible rule' (Art. VII) does it really mean, *that* infallible original now lost?"

Answer: "Yes. It cannot be the King James that added to the original and now says 'nephews' when 'grand-children' are meant (1 Tim 5:4)."

Dr. De Koster reported and commented on this exchange in the August 19, 1977 issue of *The Banner* in an editorial entitled "Really Incredible?" In the August 26 issue he set Dr. Lindsell in opposition to Dr. Palmer by several quotations from *The Battle for the Bible*. On page 36 Dr. Lindsell states:

Any student of lower criticism admits there have been copyist's mistakes, but a copyist's mistake is something entirely different from an error in Scripture. A misspelled or a misplaced word is a far cry from error, by which is meant a misstatement or something that is contrary to fact.

And on page 37 Dr. Lindsell adds: "Textual problems today in no way make the doctrine of biblical inerrancy impossible."

In the September 2, 1977 issue of *The Banner* Dr. De Koster addressed an Open Letter to the Reformed Fellowship (the publishers of *The Outlook*), applying Dr. Palmer's view to the task of preaching. He wrote: