

find so few references to church discipline in standard nineteenth and twentieth century works on systematic theology. Such a survey discloses the following information:

Lois Berkhof, in his *Systematic Theology*, devotes two and a half pages to the subject.

J. Oliver Buswell, Jr., in his work, *A Systematic Theology of the Christian Religion* (two volumes) has a brief segment on biblical separation, but nothing on church discipline per se.

Levis Sperry Chafer, in his *Systematic Theology* (eight volumes) makes no reference to church discipline.

P. B. Fitzwater, in his *Christian Theology* makes no reference to the subject.

A. A. Hodge, in his *Outlines of Theology* makes no reference to church discipline.

Charles Hodge, in his *Systematic Theology* (three volumes) has a few lines on church discipline, referring to it as one of the functions of the church.

E. Y. Mullins, in his work, *The Christian Religion in Doctrinal Expression* makes no reference to the subject.

Heinrich Schmid, in his *Doctrinal Theology of the Evangelical Lutheran Church* makes no reference to church discipline.

William G. T. Shedd, in his *Dogmatic Theology* (three volumes), makes no reference to the subject.

Augustus Hopkins Strong, in his *Systematic Theology* (three volumes), devotes two pages to church discipline.

Henry C. Thiessen, in his *Lectures in Systematic Theology* devotes ten lines to the subject.

3. What are some of the causes of this lack of emphasis on church discipline? This is a difficult question to answer. However, among those causes that could be mentioned, perhaps the following can be said to have contributed substantially to this current situation:
  - a. The Sacred-Secular Distinction -- the compartmentalization of life into sacred and secular dimensions, and the feeling that the church is to concern itself only with the sacred dimension of life.
  - b. The Public-Private Distinction -- the further compartmentalization of life into public and private domains; and the feeling, especially in American society, that organizations (including the church) do not have the right to obtrude themselves into the private beliefs or behaviors of their members.