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The Charismatic movement and the Reformed tradition

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Published Apr 1, 1975

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Abstract

At first it might appear that the Reformed tradition and the approach and theology of the charismatic movement were basically different, if not antithetical, entities. For of all the Protestant tradition, the Reformed has been noted for its emphasis on doctrine and theology as such. The charismatic movement, on the other hand, places great emphasis on experience. The Reformed churches are noted for their theologians, not their "saints" or evangelists. We glory in our confessions and catechisms, solid theology and pure doctrine. Charismatic and Pentecostal groups, on the other hand, boast of healings and ecstatic experiences. Reformed Christians tend to be cerebral, cool, and analytical. Charismatics promote enthusiasm, "letting go," and warm feelings.

Keywords

Experience
(Religion);
Reformed
Church --
Worship;
Reformed
Church --
Doctrines;
Worship; Church
history -- United
States -- 20th
century

Issue

Vol 28 No 3
(1975): The Holy
Spirit and
Charismatic
Theology

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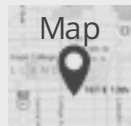
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