

Van Til's Call For A Distinctive Christian Mindset

By Dr. Greg Bahnsen

The Bible clearly teaches us that believers are "new creations" - that we have been "born again." It declares that we have been "set apart" from the world and all its ways. Yet the distinctiveness of the Christian has not always been acknowledged or appreciated with respect to the way in which we think, reason, and use our minds. But in the presuppositional apologetic advanced by Cornelius Van Til, Christians are called upon to think in a manner which brings every thought captive to the obedience of Christ (2 Cor. 10:5), thus showing obedience to the first and great commandment - to love the Lord our God "with all our mind" (Matt. 22:37).

Van Til insisted that Christians pay attention to the antithesis which exists between their reasoning and that of the fallen world. In so doing he was following the inspired direction of the Apostle Paul himself.

[TEXT OF CHAPTER 4 HERE, which ends with long block quote from Van Til]

Van Til recognized that the clarity - and accordingly, the dynamic power - of the intellectual challenge of the gospel would be lost if believers did not demonstrate a distinctive mindset in dealing with the world of unbelief.