



WESLEYAN THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A FELLOWSHIP OF WESLEYAN ARMINIAN SCHOLARS

ESTABLISHED IN 1965

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February 13, 1984

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Darius Salter, Executive Director
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Dear Darius:

You may know that for some years the Wesleyan Theological Society has considered some alterations in its theological statement. Much of this was prompted by the changes undertaken a few years ago by the CHA when the present statement was adopted in place of the earlier and longer statement. This action by the CHA created a difference between the two that has over the years on several occasions prompted questions to the WTS executive committee about whether the statements of the CHA and the WTS ought not to be brought closer together.

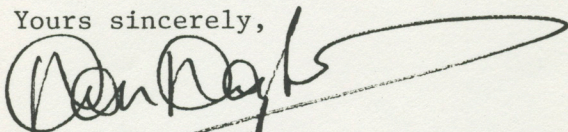
Though this issue has been around for several years, only in 1982 was the WTS executive officially asked to look at the question. After much discussion, including a special retreat last June to consider this and related issues, the executive committee recommended the adoption in last fall's meeting of the CHA statement with some minor editorial revisions required by the difference between CHA and WTS. This was defeated. The reasons are probably complex, but the issue most often mentioned was grammatical and syntactical ambiguity in the CHA statement (mainly about whether "evangelical doctrine" as well as the bible was to be considered infallible).

At any rate, the society voted, after rejecting the recommendation of the executive committee, to ask the CHA to enter with the WTS into a wider dialogue about question surrounding the theological statement. I assume that this should come before the board of CHA or its executive this April, especially since, as usual, the WTS executive will be present and could enter into such dialogue at that time.

I write this letter because I was secretary protem for Wayne Caldwell last November during his sabbatical. I will not be at the annual meeting in April because of my sabbatical in South America. I would assume that further correspondence about this matter should be directed to David Cubie or Wayne Caldwell.

Thank you very much.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Don Dayton", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Donald W. Dayton

DWD:rg