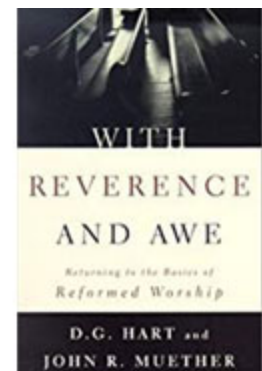


The Rock and Pit

*Look unto the rock whence ye are hewn,
and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged.*

Selections from the Christian's heritage in print, ^{Isa 51:1}

Collected by Dean Brown



Worship Committee Series on Worship, 2 of 6, for May 5, 2019.

The Church and the World.

What is the relationship between the church and the world in worship? Should the service be a time that makes the church accessible to the world, or should it be where the church displays her otherworldliness? ...

J. Gresham Machen (1881-1937), who battled worldliness in the church through his whole life, had little trouble defending the idea that **the church should be separate from the world.** ... If the distinction between the church and the world was ever lost, Machen warned, “the power of the church is gone. The Church then becomes like salt that has lost its savor, and is fit only to be cast out and to be trodden under foot of men.”

The church is a people called out of the world into fellowship with their God. The very word for church, *ekklesia* in the Greek, means “called out” [*ek* – from, *kaleo*—call.] ...

**To be a church requires being
separate from the world.**

**The church cannot gather in the presence of God
if it is still in the world.**

D. G. Hart and John R. Muether,
With Reverence and Awe: Returning to the Basics of Reformed Worship,
P&R 2002, p. 25-27.

To Be Continued.

Both Hart and Muether are Orthodox Presbyterian professors of church history at Reformed theological seminaries, and have written a variety of books