

(February 17, 1962). He wrote in part:

My resignation is a protest. A protest against the "mold" into which the contemporary minister is expected to "fit." A protest against a concept of the ministry which forces the pastor to be an executive, an administrator, an organizational genius, a public relations expert, a confessor to hundreds of people who have "stumped their toes" and "nicked their fingers," and need a sympathetic shoulder on which they can cry--more seriously, a one-man "complaint department" for disgruntled people who are at war within and are constantly causing wars without.

...A protest against a schedule which leaves no time for prayer, contemplation and scholarship. A protest against a system which makes out of the minister everything except what God expects him to be, a spiritual leader and preacher of the Word.

Max Morris' protest has been heard in some corners and there has been a movement toward a more biblical view of the ministry.⁶

There are some men who can handle the responsibility and in some cases, build super churches. These are few and there is some question about the continuing strength of these churches after the superstar leaves. The more serious effect of their example is the burden they lay on young men who believe they are called to preach the Gospel. Many examples could be given of young men who attempt to act like their superstar heroes and fall flat on their faces. Often the church is left in shambles and disillusionment hangs like a fog over the wreckage. Howard A. Snyder puts it well when he writes:

⁶People such as Ray Stedman and Bob Smith from Peninsula Bible Church in California, David Mains, Howard Snyder and others, have been not only writing but working out new structures based on the biblical model. See the bibliography for titles by these men.