Memorial: HERMAN KUIPER, 1889-1963

Herman Kuiper was the youngest of eight children born to the Rev. and Mrs. Klaas Kuiper in the Netherlands. He came with his parents to the United States in 1891. Following his preparatory education in Morgan Park Academy and the University of Chicago, he attended Calvin Theological Seminary, graduating in 1913. Thereafter he pursued graduate studies for two years at Princeton Theological Seminary. Plans for further study at the Free University of Amsterdam were postponed due to the outbreak of World War I.

Mr. Kuiper entered the ministry in the Christian Reformed Church in 1915. Two of his brothers had preceded him in this step: Barend K. Kuiper, who died in 1961, and R. B. Kuiper, who survives him. His service in six Christian Reformed pastorates was interrupted by a period of study in the Netherlands from 1925 to 1928, during which he earned a doctorate in theology from the Free University of Amsterdam. His dissertation was entitled, Calvin on Common Grace. From 1952 until his retirement in 1958 he served as Professor of Systematic Theology at Calvin Theological Seminary.

Dr. Kuiper was very active in ecclesiastical and theological circles. He was frequently delegated to the synod of his church, and served once as its president. He was an active participant in the National Association of Evangelicals during the period in which the Christian Reformed Church was affiliated, and held membership in the Evangelical Theological Society. He was a frequent contributor to church periodicals. In addition to his dissertation he published a work on soteriology, entitled By Grace Alone.

Dr. Kuiper understood the Reformed faith well and defended it stoutly. He was a clear thinker and a ready writer. Marked by a measure of reserve and apparent sternness upon first acquaintance, he possessed a keen sense of humor and a capacity for warm friendship which became abundantly evident to those who knew him more intimately. He is survived by his widow, his companion in marriage for forty-eight years.