

New Testament Exegesis (Lecture 3)

2. Early church: Most of this school consisted of philosophers and heretics:
 - Marcion
 - Porphyry
 - Plotinus, etc.
 3. Middle ages: True rationalists feared for their lives in the light of inquisitions, etc. Some scholastic rationalism existed in the works and views of Duns Scotus and Abelard, et al.
 4. Reformation: moved sharply against rationalistic interpretation. During this period it was usually held only by Unitarians, etc., like the ill-fated Servitus.
 5. The age of reason (17th century) brought rationalism out as a dominant school of interpretation within the church organization. The action was carried by:
 - a. German rationalists
 - b. English deists
 6. Present day rationalism controls the older schools of theological thought. It is represented more or less in:
 - a. the "old-fashioned" modernism
 - b. accommodation interpretations
 - c. de-mythologizing interpretations.
- C. The Grammatical Historical schools...meaning that the Scripture is interpreted in light of historical design and grammatical expression.
1. Among the Jews, some representation in the Pharisees.
 2. Early church:
 - a. Jerome
 - b. The Antiochan fathers (Th. of Mop. John Chrysostom)
 - c. The Cappadocian fathers (Greg. of Nazianzus, etc).
 3. Reformers: Luter, et al.
 4. Post-reformation Europe: School had strong help from Ernesti who, unfortunately, combined it with a strong dose of rationalism.
 5. Today it is the major expression among conservative, and/or fundamental camps of Christians.
 6. General notes of the values and problems in this school and area.