

## 5. Background of the Teacher

This is more necessary than you might believe and, as we often point out...if you know what axes are being swung you should know where to stand when they are swinging. I will try not to make it too long or tearful but I have an emotive interest in this subject and you ought to know the why and wherefore of it so as to better protect yourself.

### B. Some definitions for recurring terms and ideas

#### 1. Terms:

- a. Liberal...in theology this term is descriptive of one who has moved away from the authoritative posture given the Bible and now forms opinions, doctrines, etc., on the basis of the enlightened opinions in the understanding of men.
- b. Modernist...one who interprets the Bible in keeping with the progress of society.
- c. Fundamentalism...one who adheres to the literal exposition of the affirmative and attitudes of the Bible and is militant in the exposure of non-biblical affirmatives and attitudes.
- d. Conservative...is a term denoting the older order of the faith as maintained in customary expressions.
- e. Evangelical is a historic term denoting those committed to the Gospel as opposed to those committed to ecclesiasticism. In modern parlance the evangelical is often referred to as a "non-contankerous fundamentalist".
- f. Neo-evangelical is a piece of modern terminology coined (largely) by H.Jockenga and designed to indicate those of conservative opinion who repudiate separatism and militarism while entertaining dialogue with modern theologians.

Defining institutions and persons is not so easy as this but the definitions offer a sphere of reference. One might be both a and b at the same time, for example while another might be c, d, and e all at the same time. I think our terms are not mutually exhaustive. But they give a sphere of placement which is accomodating, in the least.