

Example

B. Some major religious influences

Religious Influences in this Age

1. Pietism...representing a basic return to the mystical and devotional life, pietism arose in Germany in the 18th century, made its presence felt through the Moravian movements and the Wesleyans in the western hemisphere, and stands today in the reflections of the Deeper Life movements and the Bible Conference ministries. *get away.*

2. Revivalism...emerged virtually as a tool in itself in this age. The great revivals of the 17-18-19 hundreds all produced new church life and growth and some progress in the social order. Both revivalism and pietism represented a return to spiritual values but do nothing in terms of offering a new doctrinal grip or emphasis.

Theological Liberalism
No authoritative Standards

3. Higher criticism in negative expression cooperated with various scientific moves to virtually eliminate the Scripture as a source of revelation with any self-sustaining meaning. It brought much division to the church and although winning most of the academic battles, has apparently lost the "life" battle.

"It's a hard line to walk between being too broad & too narrow."

A tight line between Liberalism that ruins & Charity that allows for fellowship.

4. Ecumenism ...Born in the 19th century in rather pleasant surroundings, it has become a monster of the twentieth century calling for a world church with little room for freedom and individual expression. The wave of ecumenism we have seen has been the sort to make every doctrine obsolete and unimportant.

B. The Special problems of this modern period.

1. Authority: the centrality of the role of the Bible has never been so much put aside and the quest for authority turned so completely abstract. In our fundamental circles we trust it is not this way but in the larger church context, the place allotted the Bible is vastly inferior to what was accorded it by Rome before the Reformation.

2. Hermeneutics: the means of understanding truth has become a major field of endeavor as the study has survived the pragmatic and positivistic schools and now faces the situational group. The largest problem facing us today beside that of authority is hermeneutics. And the two soon become closely linked.

The Modern Period

- Age of Degression: doctrines deviate

- Age of Expansion
- new Theological centers.
- Missions

- Age of Re-Expression
- availability of printing

Examples of Degression

① Christology

- New Nestorianism, Kenosis (emptying) ideas. Aretic from Chalcedon
↳ Christ human.

- Bartley - Non-historical Jesus.
(May or May not be a Jesus.)

- Baltman - De-mythology Jesus

② Theology Proper

↳ Unitarianism in 18th C. (Selollhaem)

- Pentecostalism