

## CHURCH HISTORY III

Tom V. Taylor

I. Some Introductory NotesA. On the Nature of this Syllabus

This is a trial and error syllabus...meaning it is the first time I have used it and the first time I have actually taught this course. This study is newly created to round out our church history curriculum at Biblical and it covers the modern age...the twentieth century with special emphasis on the American churches and the modern ecumenical movement. For those who have been with us in the other history courses it will be remembered that church history I is pre-reformation church history, church history II is post reformation and therefore actually comes into the modern movement. Due to the nature of its material it only fleetingly glances at the material in this course. There is a tiny overlapping of material but it is minimal in terms of what we have to study.

This particular study was designed to fill in the missing pieces in American Church History and to incorporate the modern day ecumenical movement. How well it will do that remains to be seen. But this is the accompanying syllabus and its nature therefore is somewhat incomplete just by reason of the creation of this course. Be on your guard for misspelled words, incomplete sentences, and breaks in the strong syllabus order that usually marks the work of this department. It will be upgraded and corrected when we have opportunity to review the year and the work.

The peculiar description for the course is found in the appendix that accompanies the syllabus. It also has the assignment sheet, the weekly progress, and all the peripheral materials that make the course one of academic excellence rather than just flubbery. Well, a little propaganda now and then is not such a bad thing, after all.

B. More Data About the Course

I have just discussed why the course came to be and what it involves in the hope of explaining the syllabus better. I will not repeat this material. But as this is the beginning of the operation I will say that the basic form of the course will be the lecture method with students free to question, observe, and note as they will. I am especially interested that the student see the damage done to the church by liberalism and theological unbelief...so I may ride that horse hard at times. I am also anxious that church history help us to see how the faith is to be lived out in a powerful and aggressive way.