

--note how the "halfway covenant", Hopkinsianism, and Taylorism, etc., contributed to the reactionary reinterpretation and the successive width of the community idea. The essential accommodations in these moves served to move the general community away from its original moorings.

--the coming of Unitarianism as an acceptable mode of thinking in some congregational areas marked the essential step towards an undermining of the whole. The recalcitrant element who stood against this did not have the means or grounds for dealing with it and permitted its continuance in an arbitrary way. When one says..."What should this element have done?" the answer is not easy but apparently, unable to remove what was wrong, the element would have been more successful had it removed itself and continued the basic ideals unimpeded. There are times when the basic ideals need correction and this was forced on the New England churches by the disestablishment that came with the close of the revolution and the new constitution. Acceptance of the unitarian mode on a broad sphere would allow it to operate presently in a narrow sphere...and in time most of the educational institutions, etc., were acquired by it.

--the acceptance of the new ideals tended to ruin what had remained of the older order although there are always a few exceptive elements...what would history be without them?

3. Major factors in the development:

a. Modern Unbelief:

(1) Definition: Modern Unbelief is defined as the current merger of the denial of God and His will with the anthropocentric philosophy within the framework or the existing and professed church. What makes it modern is its inclusion in the ecclesiastical bodies. The ideas have always been with us but have always been shut out of the organized church. It is modern because in the present age it operates within the structure, not without.

In this regard it will be seen that the expression of this theoretical posturing is ultimately:

- a denial of the character of Scripture
- a denial to the reality of Divine persons
- a denial of the Divine prerogative
- a denial of a normative life approach

Practically it will show itself as a challenge