

the same order that was followed when we were looking at the influence of modern unbelief.

(a) Within Wesleyanism (see p. 77 ff)

/1/ Historic separations in which purity or emphasis was the deciding factor:

- Free Methodism (bishops, etc)
- Wesleyanism (holiness)
- Methodist Protestant (organization)
- Nazarene, et al (holiness)

All of these bodies, although in varying degrees, felt that the parent body had left aspects of its initial commitment and for better testimony and strength they became new bodies. We are speaking of the Wesleyan community in the United States, not England, where the difficulties were much more pronounced and the Wesleyan divisions more emphatic and painful. Some of the divisions have been "healed" and probably do not need to be included in this section.

To this group could be added several of the "holiness" bodies that have a Wesleyan inception but for one reason or another have come to independent status. In the case of many of these the issue was not separatism but convenience, geographic location, etc.

We are also not listing bodies that are individual today but had their beginnings in the parent stream and then with proper blessings, etc., grew on their own path. Such would include the AME church, for example.

/2/ Contemporary separations

/a/ The Bible Protestant Church...now known as the American Fundamental Church.

Formed in 1939 after the three way merger of the Methodist Episcopal church, the Methodist Episcopal church South, and the Methodist Protestant church. The last named was the more conservative and also the smallest. Seceding churches from the merger were able to retain their properties, after a court struggle, and reincorporated themselves as the Bible Protestant Church. The group has remained fundamentalist and separatist but has not shown great growth and has only with difficulty resolved doctrinal unity within itself.

/b/ The Evangelical Methodist Church

This is one of the larger of the modern separations and was formed by a group of protesters out of central Pennsylvania and some