



Doctrine Matters—History 2  
From sermon 7.28.19

Read 2 Timothy 3:1-5 & Acts 20:29-30

Questions, Answers, and Review from Sunday's sermon: false doctrine continued to plague the Protestant Church after the Reformation and the return to Sola Scriptura. We need to know the recent history, tactics, and influence of false doctrine, especially in the form of Liberalism. Several giants of the faith have rose up in the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and now, 21<sup>st</sup> Century to defend sound doctrine.

Another matching exercise! Match the defender with the doctrines they battled and the truth they revealed.

<u>False Doctrine/Movement</u>	<u>Defender</u>	<u>Revealed Truth (only 3)</u>
American Liberalism	Sproul/MacArthur	Its Toxicity
Pragmatism/Practicalism	Spurgeon	Its Sinisterness
Modernist & Downgrade	Chafer	Its Popularity
Liberal Education	Machen	

[Huge note: These are all men. Therefore, fallible. (Not Paul, when writing Scripture). Some issues we may disagree with any/all of them]

Read *Colossians 2:8*. What was mentioned as some of the process and denials of Liberalism?

Various answers. 1<sup>st</sup>—deny the inerrancy of Scripture. Dismiss the miraculous and supernatural. Reject the 6-day Creation account of Genesis. Oppose the Virgin birth of Christ. Strip Christianity of foundational/non-negotiable doctrine: nature of man, sin, death, alien righteousness, atonement, resurrection, judgment, wrath. Redefine sin. Insist on unity, tolerance, and ethics.

Why does every false doctrine begin with a view of Scripture? you cannot deny what it says. You have to deny what it means. Question if it's been accurately recorded and the motive of the writer.

Why do most false doctrines also deny the biblical account of Genesis and the Virgin birth? It's a battle for the beginning (origins). If the beginning cannot be trusted, neither can anything that follows. If these two most supernatural events can be discredited, the rest falls apart.

Who are the children of historic liberalism and what do they promote/teach? Give examples.

Pragmatism—teach and practice what works, what draws a crowd, what sells = must be right/blessed

Practicalism—teach and offer what is needed. Help. Self-help. Self-esteem. Positive thinking. How to rise above adversity and be a better person. Parenting, business, etc. Bible is full of models and examples...including Jesus (love, serve, give, heal...) . avoid negative, surrender, slave to something

Read *Matthew 7:15* & *2 Peter 2:1-2*. Machen taught that Liberalism isn't content with leaving orthodox teaching and forming their own groups (churches). From these Scriptures and what we've learned about church history, what is their vision and practice? To secretly subvert sound doctrine and eliminate biblical teaching by gaining and remaining in positions of influence. Their mission is not unity, the consideration of opposing views, love or truth. It is the destruction of the historic, orthodox, conservative Church = truth about God, Christ, Salvation, Sin...