Presbyterian History in the United States

by the Rev. David G. Barker

(revised 10/9/13)

1. The Broader Picture

a. The Contextual Landscape (1683-1859)

b. Higher Criticism Comes to America (1700s-1907)

c. Darby & the Origin of Dispensationalism (1827-1845)

2. Centuries of Change

a. A Survey of 18th c. Presbyterianism

b. The 2nd Great Awakening (1790-1840)

c. Charles Finney (1792-1875)

3. A Determined Unbelief

a. Evolution as Theory – Frye, part 1 (1809-1882)

2. Centuries of Change (cont.)

d. A Survey of 19th c. Presbyterianism

4. The Fire and Sword of Dispensationalism

a. Dispensationalism Comes to America (1862-1909)

b. Dispensationalism Spreads Rapidly (1876-1924)

c. The Scofield Bible

d. The Specifics of the Doctrines

e. Dispensationalism Infects Presbyterianism

5. The Fundamental Religion

a. The Rise of Fundamentalism (1865-1924)

b. Fundamentalism Becomes Militant (1914-1923)

3. A Determined Unbelief (cont.)

b. Evolution as Theater - The Scopes Trial (1925)

6. Modernism

a. From Princeton to Westminster (1923-1929)

b. The Crisis in Presbyterian Foreign Missions (1924-1935)

c. The Conservatives Divide While the Modernists Unite (1935-1937)

d. Postmodernism: Neo-Orthodoxy & Ecumenism (1919-1967)

3. A Determined Unbelief (concl.)

c. Evolution as Propaganda - *Inherit the Wind* (1955, 1960)

7. Recovering Lost Ground

a. From PCUS to PCA (1865-1973)

b. The “Split-Ps” and “The End of the Civil War”

d. A Return to Orthodoxy?

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