

IX. The twentieth century

A. Spread of evolution and higher criticism

B. Social gospel

1. Christian attitude toward world
 - a. Next world is actually far more important
 - b. But this world is God's creation, and we have a duty toward all who suffer
 - c. The best social improvement plans fail because of man's sin
 - d. Greatest improvement comes from changing men's character
 - e. Christian should do what he can to make it a better world
2. Dangers in efforts for social improvement
 - a. Danger of making it primary
 - b. Danger of overlooking vital factors, especially sin
 - c. Danger of building on human ideas instead of God's Word
3. Socialistic efforts before Marx
 - a. Socialistic colonies and plans
 - b. Development of factory system
4. Beginning of Communism (also called scientific socialism)
 - a. Idea of class war
 - b. Marx's expectation of a millennium
 - c. Dialectical materialism
 - d. Subordination of all ethics to the end sought
5. Communist advances in 20th century
6. Social gospel in churches
7. Relation of modernist leaders to Communism

C. Ecumenical Movement

1. General principles
 - a. Unity of Church
 - b. Origin of denominations