

ALLIANCE THEOLOGY AND HISTORY (Outline by Dr. Harold Shelly)

AN ALLIANCE OF CHRISTIANS AT HOME AND MISSIONARIES OVERSEAS

THE INSPIRATION (THE MAN): ALBERT BENJAMIN SIMPSON (1843-1919)

Student of Theology

Poet - Preacher

Convention Leader

Deeper Life and Missionary Conference

“Fourfold Gospel”

THE MOVEMENT: “ALLIANCE” to Denomination

Truly an Alliance 1887-1920

Uncertain direction 1920-1960

Certainly a Denomination 1960 - present

Doctrinal Statement, 1965, 66 (11 points of Evangelical theology)

(Potential merger)

Organization & Church Planting at home

THE MESSAGE: THE GOSPEL OF JESUS (Savior, Sanctifier, Healer, and Coming King)

The Preeminence of Jesus:

"Wherefore God has also highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name; that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and thing in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" Phil. 2:9-11

The Fullness of Jesus:

"and to know the love of Christ, which passes knowledge, that ye may be filled with all the fullness of God." Eph. 3:19

The Commission of Jesus:

"All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age." Matt. 28:18b-30 NKJV

THE INFLUENCE OF THE C&MA

Mission Conventions

Deeper Life Movement(s)

Pentecostalism and the Baptism of the Holy Ghost

(Azusa, 1906 to the Assemblies of God, 1914)

INTRODUCTION: ROOTS OF THE ALLIANCE

Nineteenth Century Sources (George Pardington)

1. Gospel Evangelism, revivalism

2. Holiness Movement, perfectionism

3. Healing Movement(s)

4. Modern Missionary Movement (1792-)

5. Rebirth of Millennialism

[6] “Stillness” (Charles Nienkirchen)

[7. Evangelical Alliance (London 1846)]

European Strains (Samuel Stoesz)

1. Spiritual Insights of the Pietists
2. Loyalty to truth of Scottish Covenanters
3. Self-Sacrificing Zeal of the Moravians
[being, knowing, doing / heart, head, hands and feet]

HISTORY PART ONE: THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Forces in American Christianity (William W. Sweet)

1. A nation of radicals, political and religious
2. The westward movement. "the almost Promised land"
3. Regionalism, economic and social
4. Revivalism, spiritual
5. Millennialism, the Kingdom

I. The Colonial Period

A. Puritan and Covenanter principles

- a. Salvation by grace
- b. Authority of Scripture
- c. Sovereignty and providence of God
- d. Piety and Obedience
- e. Simple Word-centered worship
- f. Rule by elder
- g. Educated clergy

B. Deist principles (Basic to our "Civil Religion")

- a. A Supreme Being ("In God we trust")
- b. Worship
- c. Virtue
- d. Repentance
- e. Rewards and punishment
- f. Reason ("These truths we hold to be self-evident")
- g. Providence ("Heaven-rescued land")

I. The Colonial Period

A. Transplanted (State) Churches and "Sects"

B. The First Great Awakening (c. 1726-70)

1. Influences

Deism and Unitarianism
 Arminianism and Universalism
 Puritanism and the "Half-way Covenant"
 Pietism and Revival

2. Leaders

Theodorus Jacobus Frelinghuysen (1691-1747) Dutch Reformed
 William and Gilbert Tennent (1673-1747 & 1703-64) Presbyterian
 Jonathan Edwards (1703-58) Congregational
 George Whitefield (1714-70) Anglican
 Shubal Stearns (1706-71) Congregational -> Baptist
 Devereux Jarrett (1732-1801) Anglican
 Isaac Backus (1724-1806) Congregational -> Baptist

3. Results

Conversions and membership increase
 Cooperation, spiritual unity
 Divisions "old" v. "new"
 Realignment
 Baptist
 Methodist
 Episcopalian
 Reaction: Universalism and Unitarianism

- C. War of American Independence (1775-1783)
- Declaration of Independence (1776)
 - "All men are created equal"
 - Treaty of Paris (1783)
 - Methodist Episcopal Church of America (1784)
 - "Denominations"

HISTORY PART TWO: REVIVALISM IN THE 19th CENTURY (1783-1914)

"THE METHODIST CENTURY"

THE CENTURY OF "MANIFEST DESTINY"

I. The Westward Movement

- A. All America seemed to be moving west, the political context
- B. Plan of Union (1801) "Presbyterians"
- C. Baptist - Farmer-Preachers
- D. Methodist - Circuit Riding Preacher
 - "Free Grace" "Free Will" (Free Land)
- E. Roman Catholic Immigration (fear)

II. The Second Great Awakening (c. 1795-1835)

- A. Frontier Revivals - KY, TN, IL
 - Camp Meetings
- B. Eastern and Urban Revival - less emotional
 - Timothy Dwight (1752-1817)
 - Haystack Prayer Meeting (1806)
 - Foreign Mission Societies
 - American Bible Society (1816)
 - American Sunday School Union (1824)
 - American Tract Society (1832)
 - American Colonization Society (1817)
 - American Anti-Slavery Society (1833)

- C. Third Phase - "New Measures"
 - Charles G. Finney (1792-1875)
 - Lectures on Revivals ...* (1835)

III. Jeremiah Lanphier and the Fulton Street Revival (1858)

- Urban Prayer Meeting revivals
 - Avoid: "baptism" and "slavery"

IV. “Manifest Destiny”

War with Mexico (1846-48)

(Un)Civil War Between the States (1861-65)

Division of many denominations North and South

V. The Holiness Movement

A. Reformation doctrine of Sanctification

B. Wesleyan doctrine of Christian Perfection, its teachers

John Wesley (1703-91)

Two works of Grace, *Plain Account of Christian Perfection*.

John Wm. Fletcher (1729-85)

Repeatable Baptisms of the Holy Ghost

Adam Clarke (1762-1832)

Commentary on the Holy Scriptures (1810-26)

Emphasis on crisis of Entire Sanctification

C. Promoters of Holiness

Asa Mahan (1799-1889) and Charles Finney, Presbyterian/Congregational

Phoebe Palmer (1807-74) Methodist, Jesus as Sanctifier (1837),

“Tuesday Meetings for the Promotion of Holiness” “Altar Theology”

The Way of Holiness (1845)

William E. Boardman (1810-86), Presbyterian

Higher Christian Life (1859)

R. Pearsall Smith (1827-99) and Hannah Whitall Smith (1832-1911), Quaker "stillness"

Holiness through Faith (1870)

The Christian Secret of a Happy Life (1875)

D.L. Moody (1837-99) and Reuben A. Torrey (1856-1928)

“A Clear and Definite Baptism of the Holy Spirit”

D. National Camp Meeting Association for the Promotion of Holiness

E. The Keswick Movement - Reformed/Calvinistic Holiness

Weekly Schedule

Monday: The problem: the guilt and power of sin

Tuesday: The provision of God through the Cross

Wednesday: Consecration

Thursday: Spirit-filled Life

Friday: Christian Service (Missions)

Evaluation (compared with Wesleyan holiness)

Love increased, not eradication of the sin nature

Filled with the Holy Spirit for on-going struggle with inward corruption

Decisive Act of Trust, by faith, whether you feel it or not

Submission to Christ, “Let go and let God.” (Counteraction)

PART THREE: THE THEOLOGY OF THE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

I. A.B. Simpson and Sanctification in The C&MA

A. Simpson's Crisis Experience

Louisville, KY. Reading Boardman's *Higher Christian Life*

B. Simpson's Teaching

1. A "Distinct Blessing"
2. Critical of "Progressive"
3. Two distinct experiences
"sins" and "sin"
4. No long interval necessary
5. Steps
 - (1) Surrender
 - (2) Reckoning
 - (3) Habitual yielding
 Cf. Romans Six: "Know" "reckon" "yield" "obey"
6. To be like Jesus
7. Aspects and/or Illustrations:
 - a. Baptism
 - b. (Mystical) Marriage
 - c. Inner Life
 - d. Victory over "the body of sin" [Rom.6:6]
 - e. Flesh v. Spirit
 - f. Indwelling Holy Spirit
 - g. The Wilderness (between the Red Sea to Jordan River)
 - h. Death and Resurrection Life
 - I. Election and Predestination to Holiness
 - j. Consecration after Sanctification
 - k. Stillness (maintenance)
 - l. Walk in Holiness (the progressive element)
 - m. HIMSELF

C. Evidence

1. Fullness of God Ephesians 3:14-20
2. Active Love I Corinthians 13
3. Spiritual Fruit Galatians 5
4. Blessedness Matthew 5:3-12
5. Filled with the Spirit Ephesians 5:18
6. A Life Pleasing to God I Thessalonians 4-5

D. Three Areas of Sanctification (contrast to I John 1:16)

1. Purity - His character - (not legalism for the "eye")
2. Power - His strength - (not manipulation or oppression by the "flesh")
3. Personal Relationship - His presence - (not "the pride of life")

E. Distinctive with Liberty (General Council, Nyack, NY, June 1906)

1. Church Government
 2. Mode of Baptism
 3. Calvinism and Arminianism
 4. Ceremonies and Practices
- The Fourfold Gospel (without extremes)

F. Article Seven

"It is the will of God that each believer should be filled with the Holy Spirit and sanctified wholly,

being separated from sin and
the world and
fully dedicated to the will of God,
thereby receiving power
for holy living and
effective service.
This is both a crisis and a progressive experience
wrought in the life of the believer
subsequent to conversion."

G. Definition of *crisis*:

1. "A stage in a sequence of events at which the trend of all future events is determined; turning point" (*Random House College Dictionary*, 317)
2. Chinese "way-yee" (opportunity-danger)
3. Crisis: the point at which one begins growth in grace and substantial progress in sanctification. This growth involves or begins with a moment of decision, a decisive act of dedication [a *crisis*, Greek *krisis*, decision]
The beginning of "boundless ... spiritual progress" (Simpson, *Wholly Sanctified*, 23)

PART THREE B: THE THEOLOGY OF THE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE (cont.)

II. A.B. Simpson and Healing in The C&MA

A. The Healing Movement

1. Revival of Healing in Europe (German-speaking revival of divine healing)
Dorothea Trudel, Johannes Blumhardt,
Otto Stockmayer, Christoph Blumhardt
2. In U.S.A. and the U.K.
Charles Cullis (1833-1892), "Faith Cures through Prayer."
William Boardman (1810-1886), *The Lord That Healeth Thee*.
Bethshan in England ("Himself," Simpson, June 1885)
Andrew Murray was healed there.

B. A.B. Simpson and His Experience of healing.

1. 1881 Healed, alone, at Old Orchard Beach, Maine
2. Later, Daughter
3. 1882 Friday Evening - Consecration and Healing
4. 1883 first "Faith Home" for healing, Berachah.

C. Simpson's Doctrine of Divine Healing

1. Based upon Mt. 8:17 (Isaiah 53:4)
2. Not most important - Not Dowieism (John Alexander Dowie)
3. "In the Atonement"
At + One = Reconcile
Rom. 5:11 (καταλλαγ_ν, κατα + αλλος)
Dictionary: Satisfaction or reparation of injury; Amends
When did Christ make atonement for us? It is Christ's whole life that atones. Atonement is a person; it is (in) His Name.

4. Crisis of missionary deaths 1890

5. "First Fruits" (Rom. 8:2, 21)
"The Better and Higher Way"
6. The Committee (Nyack 1906)

Statement on Healing

At the important pre-council meeting in Nyack in 1906, they offered the following on healing:

It is understood that the Alliance holds and teaches:

1. The will of God to heal the bodies of those who trust and obey Him by His own direct power without means.
2. The atonement of Christ for the body.
3. The life of the risen Christ for our mortal frame received by faith.
4. The ordinance of anointing and laying on of hands with proper recognition of the necessity of faith on the part of the individual anointed.
5. Power over evil spirits through the name of Jesus.
6. The disclaiming of all merit or individual power on the part of the worker and the constant recognition of the name of Jesus as the source of all supernatural power.¹

Henry Wilson, J.D. Williams, A.E. Funk, A.B. Simpson,
committee.

Compare the 1963 doctrinal statement (below).

7. Summary: Three Levels
 - A. Total - Healing/Health
 - B. Strength without healing
 - C. Medicine

D. The Alliance Today

1. 1963 Doctrinal Statement (Article 8)

"Provision is made

in the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ
for the healing of the mortal body.

Prayer for the sick and anointing with oil

are taught in the Scriptures and

are privileges for the church in this present age."

2. Richard Siple, C&MA pastor, *Understanding Divine Healing* (1986).

Counseling before prayer of healing.

Scriptures used in counseling (1 Cor. 6:12-16; Rom. 12:1-2; 1 Cor 7:3-5; Matt. 5:21-24, 18:15-17, 21-22, 34-35).

Freedom: "The Law of the Spirit of Christ Has Set Me Free from the Law of Sin and Death."

The Process into Bondage; the Process out of Bondage.

E. Examination of Matthew 8:2-16 & 17

Problems: leprosy, paralysis, fever, demonization, illness/misery

Actions: cleansed, cured/healed, touched =>departure, healed/cured.

Comment: the words of Isaiah (53:4), "He took our weaknesses and carried our diseases."

¹*Birth of a Vision*, 23.

F. Key Scriptures

1. Isaiah and the New Testament

Isaiah 53:4 Matthew 8:17
 Isa 53:5 1 Peter 2:24
 Isa 53:6 1 Peter 2:25
 Mark 6:13
 James 5:13-20
 Acts 3:6, 16; 4:7-12 "In the Name"
 Isa 61:1-2 Luke 4:17-21

2. Other: Gospels (Jesus and the Apostles), Acts (the Name), James ("pure religion" in community).

III. The Eschatology of the C&MA: "Coming King"

A. The Context of Eschatology in American Evangelicalism

1. Millenarianism/Millennialism

Two Ideas combined

Messianic Kingdom: Rev 20

Sabbath: Rest on the earth, perfection, . . .

2. Time and Nature

a. Prediction of the date

Charles Finney: 1830

William Miller: 1843/4, and the Adventist Movement

b. Manifest Destiny in (Almost) Promised Land

1) Optimism

2) Linking America with the Revelation - the New Jerusalem

3. Dispensationalism

a. John Nelson Darby² (1800-82): Plymouth Brethren preacher; *Seven Trips to America*

b. C.I. Scofield: *Seven Dispensations*: Innocence, Conscience, Human Government, Promise, Law, Grace, Kingdom.

4. Pessimism (replaced optimism of earlier evangelicals)

a. Industrialism

Urbanization problems

b. Immigration

More overcrowding into the cities

c. Intellectual Issues raised by:

Karl Marx, Darwin, German Critical Studies on the Bible, et al.

d. Imperialism

Colonization =>Conflicts => WW I & WW II

5. Niagara Bible Conference and others promote Pre-Millennialism.

Pre-millennia lists (division between pre and post tribulationists)

6. Zionism

American: Reform Judaism (1855)

Russia: Pogrom (1881)--Mass-migration out of Russia

Germany: Liberalism--Comfortable life but latent danger.

B. A.B. Simpson and Alliance Eschatology

1. Simpson's Conversion to Pre-Millennialism

²John Nelson Darby had Anglican ordination, served a parish in the (Anglican) Church of Ireland. "His hymns breath a strain of mystical devotion [piety]." (G.C.D. Howley, N.I.D.C.C., 283).

4. Renewal or Restoration (At-One-ment): Reunion

- 1) Regeneration: New Birth
- 2) Maturation: New Character
- 3) Invigoration: New Strength
- 4) Restoration: New-Environment [New-Everything] New Heavens and Earth - Absolute perfection

5. Salvation (í)

- 1) Position Rom. 5:9-11
- 2) Process Phil. 2:12-13
- 3) Physical Strength James 5:14-15; 2 Cor. 12:19
- 4) Promise 1 Thess. 5:9-10; Rom. 13:11

6. Grace-Multiplied (1 Pet 1:2)

- 1) Stand 1 Pet. 5:12
- 2) Grow 2 Pet. 3:18
- 3) Help 1 Pet. 5:10
- 4) Hope 1 Pet. 1:13; 4:7-11

7. Crises of Life (problem of sin from birth to death)

- 1) Iniquity - Guilt of sin
- 2) Imperfection(s) - Sin in human nature, personal(ity) weaknesses, morality
- 3) Infirmary - physical weaknesses, our mortality
- 4) Injustice in society - Death and the Judgment

Savior

Sanctifier

CHRIST

Healer

Coming King

MISSION

V. Alliance Organization

Important considerations:

General Constitution

General Bylaws: Article III & IV

Reversion Clause

District Constitution: All

Church Constitution: Articles III, V, VIII, X, XV

Fellowship Fund

Church Ministries: Regulations

Policy on Licensing: Articles I, II, VIII, X

Policy on Ordination: Articles II, III, IV

Disciple Process

General Requirements: Article III

Statements on Church Government, Divorce, Abortion, Ecumenical Movement

Organization and Leadership

Paul Bubna saw Leadership as it involves:

Authority: Legal Right to make a decision

Power: Ability to either reward or punish people

Influence: Being able to motivate people to do what they ought to do without using a lot of authority or power.

Organization

Three paradigms:

Hierarchical/episcopal (rule by Bishop): Roman Catholic, Anglican, Methodist

Congregational (authority in the local congregation): Baptist, Independent

Presbyterian (with rule by elders): Presbyterian, Reformed (C&MA)

C&MA Structure(s)

General Council Annual

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Board of Managers

(Meets between General Councils)

Officers:

President

Secretary

Vice President

V.P.

V.P.

V.P.

V.P.

Development Finance

National

International

Districts Regions

President, Vice Presidents and Secretary elected by the General Council

3 Year Terms

Nomination Committee submits name for President to General Council; members and Council vote for Yes or No.

Vice Presidents under Pres.: full time positions.

One Vice President and a Secretary: part-time positions.

Council also elects the Board of Managers

Annual revenues/Great Commission Fund: \$27,198,796 (1996) (66-68% for Overseas Ministries)

District Conference

District Superintendent

Local Churches

Local Congregation

Governing Board --&/or-- Elder Board (both or combination or all elder board)

Church Committees (report to Governing/Elder Board)

Deacons and Deaconesses (Diaconate Board)

Trustee Board

Sunday School

Christian Education

Youth Council

WMPF (Alliance Women)

Alliance Men

Alliance Youth Fellowship
Mission Committee

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