

14—Old Time Revival

“The Story of the Church”

Pastor Mike Cooke

1. The Second Great Awakening

- A. Began in 1790 and peaked in the 1840's
- B. In the wake of the Revolution, Americans were looking to a return to “primitive” Christianity
- C. Tent meetings drew thousands of common folk in New York, Ohio, and the South
 - 1) Presbyterians, Baptists and Methodists
 - 2) Methodist “Circuit Riders”

2. Charles Grandison Finney (1792-1875)

- A. 1825 Preaches revivals in the Burned-Over District of New York
 - 1) Having women pray in public
 - 2) “Anxious Seat” where unbelievers received prayer
 - 3) Father of “Old Time Revivalism”
- B. 1835 Becomes professor of Oberlin College in Ohio, “New Light”
 - 1) First American college to admit blacks and women
 - 2) Calvinist doctrine mixed with Wesleyan “Holiness”
 - 3) Preached “Christian Perfection” and “Free Will”
 - a) “A revival is not a miracle, or dependent on a miracle, in any sense. It is a purely philosophical result of the right use of the constituted means.”
 - 4) Rejected by many “Old School” Calvinists

3. Restoration Movement

- A. Sought to unify Christians and restore “New Testament” Christianity
 - 1) “No book but the Bible, no creed but Christ”
 - 2) Christians should celebrate the Lord’s Supper every Sunday
 - 3) Baptism by immersion necessary for salvation
- B. Barton W. Stone, Cane Ridge revivals in Kentucky (Christian Church)
 - 1) 20,000 people gathered at a Camp Meeting
- C. Alexander Campbell (Disciples of Christ)

4. Women's Rights

- A. Female converts outnumbered men 3 to 2
- B. Took leading roles in missionary and reform societies
- C. Women's suffrage, temperance, and abolition major issues
- D. Susan B. Anthony (Quaker) led to 19th amendment (1920)

5. Black Autonomy

- A. 1784 "Black Harry" Hosier preaches the first sermon to white audience
- B. 1816 African Methodist Episcopal Church first in America
- C. Several Black Baptist Churches sought independence as well
- D. Charles Finney calls slavery a "great national sin"
- E. John Brown considers himself an instrument of God

6. Postmillennialism Adventism

- A. Believe in purifying society to prepare for Christ to return
 - 1) Temperance, abolition, women's rights
- B. Offshoots of Millennialism
 - 1) Dispensationalism (John Nelson Darby, 1830)
 - 2) Latter Day Saints (Joseph Smith, 1838)
 - 3) Seventh Day Adventists (William Miller, 1843)
 - 4) Jehovah's Witnesses (Charles Taze Russel, 1878)