

Week 13

The West Shifts Away from Christianity: Darwinism and Liberalism
Class Handout

Before Darwin

- Natural Theology & Scientific Inquiry
- General revelation and special revelation
- Revealed and Natural Knowledge

The Darwinian Revolution (1850s onward)

- Darwin's Theory of Natural Selection
- Theory of Human Origins
- Survival of the Fittest
- Classification of Races and Eugenics

Rationalism and Its Fruits

- Rationalism = Reason as final authority
- Materialism & Anti-Supernaturalism
- Secularism
- Agnosticism
- Scientific Naturalism

Rationalistic and Evolutionary Thinking Applied to Religion

- Evolutionary Thought and Human Origins
- Evolutionary Thought and Biblical Criticism
- Evolutionary Thought and Other Religions
- The Evolution of Language
- The Evolution of Doctrine
- Evolutionary Thought and Missionary Methodology

Rise of Liberal Theology

- Liberal Theology = Rationalism applied to theology
- Shifting Attitudes Towards Biblical Authority
- Scientific Naturalism and Anti-Supernaturalism
- The Kingdom of God
- Divine Immanence and the Fatherhood of God

Recommended Resources

John Woodbridge and Frank James, *Church History, Volume Two: From Pre-Reformation to the Present Day*, Zondervan Academic: Grand Rapids, 2013.

J. Gresham Machen, *Christianity and Liberalism*, first published 1923