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History of Christianity
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Gonzalez Chapter 8 5-3-1

Questions:

1. What were traits that marked North American Protestantism in the 19th century?
2. The revolutionary movement of “worship of reason” in France resulted in what in the Catholic church?
3. What was Schleiermacher’s contribution to liberalism?
4. How were popes of this era influenced by the innovations and theories of modernism?
5. In what ways were colonialism and mission connected?

Answers:

1. Denominationalism- manifestations of Protestant with varied beliefs and practices, and revivalism- which Gonzalez describes as emotive and celebratory movements.
2. They doubled down on tradition, opposing ‘the new ideals of liberty and democracy’ (84).
3. Schleiermacher was a German Protestant theologian who took Christian doctrine and reinterpreted it so that it wouldn’t collide with modern trends of reason and rationalism, leading him to be called the “father of liberalism”.
4. Pius IX, Leo XIII, and others in this period of time reacted to modernism by leaning further into doctrine and tradition, taking a strong stance against any who might try to reinterpret Catholicism.
5. They often went hand in hand, with powerful countries bringing faith to developing countries to bring modern ideals and interests and expand their power.

Terms:

1. Holiness churches- Wesleyan churches that focused on the theme of sanctification. They often held charismatic practices, one of which led to the birth of Pentecostalism at Azusa Street.
2. Liberalism- a theological ideology that officially began in this time that was birthed in the belief that only rationalism in religion could exist in the present day.
3. Syllabus of Errors: Pius IX developed this document to come against the “modern ideals of democracy, freedom of thought, and religious liberty” (86)

Summary:

In the 19th century, the rise of modernism and ideals of democracy and liberty strongly influenced the divisions in both Protestant and Catholic churches. Many theological movements attempted to rethink the Bible in terms of rationalism and liberalism, which led to further entrenched sides. There was also a missionary awakening that occurred at the time, spurred on by many of these movements, which took Christianity further than it had been before.