

## TH 605 - 5-3-1 – Gonzalez, Ch 8

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### Questions:

1. How did the French Revolution differ from the American Revolution?
2. What was the impact of rationalism on the Protestant theologians?
3. What was the Roman Catholic Church's position on modernity?
4. How did the great century of European colonialism impact the Protestant missions?
5. What political background led Protestantism to grow in Latin America?

### Answers:

1. The French Revolution was originally guided by a political ideology very similar to that of the American Revolution, but soon took a different path on religious matters and showed hostility to the Christian faith, and the Catholic Church in France was much weakened.
2. Some embraced modernity by reinterpreting the faith that would not conflict with the modern view of reality, like Friedrich Schleiermacher, known as the "father of liberalism." Others expanded on the historical study of the Bible and Christianity, which clarified some matters of faith, but also cast doubts on other issues that were taken for granted. Some responded by seeking to preserve orthodoxy in their own traditions.
3. The papacy took an openly anti-modern stance. It reached its high point with the dogma of the immaculate conception of Mary and the dogma of papal infallibility at the first Vatican Council.
4. Sadly, colonialism and missions often went hand-in-hand, with both sides using the other for their own ends.
5. Much of the earliest Protestant growth was due to the immigration of settlers from Scotland, England, Germany, and other European countries, invited to settle in the newly independent country by governments seeking to weaken traditional ties with Spain and Portugal and to strengthen ideals of democracy and freedom.

### Terms:

1. Fundamentalism: a reaction to modernism and the German higher criticism movement, which seeks to preserve orthodoxy based on the five tenets of the Christian faith: 1) The Bible is literally true. 2) The virgin birth and deity of Christ. 3) The substitutionary atonement of Jesus Christ on the cross. 4) The bodily resurrection of Jesus. 5) The authenticity of Jesus' miracles as recorded in Scripture and the literal, pre-millennial second coming of Christ to earth.
2. Liberalism: a reinterpretation of the main doctrines of Christianity in such a way that would not conflict with the modern view of reality created by Friedrich Schleiermacher.
3. Papal infallibility: The Roman Catholic Church teaches that the pope is infallible when he speaks from his position of authority on a particular issue or doctrine (speaking *ex cathedra*).

### Summary:

It was considered the great century of modernity. It began with political ideals of democracy and free enterprise with the American and French Revolutions and the independence of the Latin American nations. Rationalism also led to liberalism, higher critiques of the Bible, and the reactionary movement of fundamentalism. The Roman Catholics responded with an openly anti-modern stance, and the First Vatican Council formally declared the pope infallible. The European colonialization also brought forth a Protestant missionary expansion, often working jointly and for mutual benefits – in Asia, the Pacific, Africa, the Muslim world, and Latin America.