



– A.J. Case, reprinted in William Jennings Bryan, SEVEN QUESTIONS IN DISPUTE (1925)

CHECKING OUT THE BIBLE

February 20, 2019

Rev. John Fanestil

INTRODUCTION

1. *The Bible as a Library*

THE DIVERSITY OF THE BIBLE

2. *The Books (& Shelves) of the Old Testament*
3. *The Books (& Shelves) of the New Testament*

THE UNITY OF THE BIBLE

4. *The Formation of the Scriptures*
5. *The Printing of the Bible*

THE BIBLE IN AMERICAN CONTEXT

6. *The (Protestant) Origins of American Culture*
7. ***Modernism, Fundamentalism and Beyond***

CONCLUSION

8. *Living the Bible*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Wednesday, February 27, 10:30 am

- *Concluding Session: CHECKING OUT THE BIBLE with John Fanestil*

Wednesday, March 6, 10:30 am

- *General Conference Debrief with Phil Amerson & John Fanestil*
- *Imposition of Ashes (Ash Wednesday)*

Wednesday, March 13, 10:30 am

- *First Session: THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT with Phil Amerson*

THE BIBLE IN ENGLISH-SPEAKING NORTH AMERICA

STREAMS OF PROTESTANTISM:

- Puritanism (_____)
- Anglicanism (_____)
- Pietism (_____)
- Enlightenment thought (_____)

CROSS-CUTTING STREAMS:

- Covenantal Theology
- American Protestant Vernacular
- American Exceptionalism

EARLY AMERICAN CONSENSUS

“... the mandates of covenantal theology possessed a special force that scarcely contradicted but instead supplemented the knowledge about society reached through the use of history and reason. It seemed indeed to be a peculiar moment in history when all knowledge coincided, when classical antiquity, Christian theology, English empiricism, and European rationalism could all be linked.”

– Gordon Wood, *The Creation of the American Republic*

SCIENCE vs. RELIGION

- Isaac Watts, *I Sing th'Almighty Power of God* (1715)
There's not a plant or flower below
but makes your glories known,
and clouds arise and tempests blow
by order from your throne;
while all that borrows life from you
is ever in your care,
and everywhere that we can be,
you, God, are present there.
- Charles Darwin, *The Origin of Species* (1859)
“One general law, leading to the advancement of all organic beings, namely, multiply, vary, let the strongest live and the weakest die.”

MODERNISM vs. FUNDAMENTALISM (see reverse)

THE FLOWERING OF AMERICAN PROTESTANTISM

- SCRIPTURE - _____
- TRADITION - _____
- REASON - _____
- EXPERIENCE - _____

THE WOULD-BE METHODIST COMPROMISE