
WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE

BETWEEN FUNDAMENTALISM AND MODERNISM?

The twentieth century struggle to preserve the historic Christian faith is known as the Fundamentalist-Modernist controversy.

The Fundamentalist believes the Bible to be the Word of God. He is called a Fundamentalist because he accepts the great foundation doctrines of the Christian religion. A Modernist considers himself to be a Christian, though he has accepted the new theology, a social gospel, and rejects the great doctrines of the faith as being theories or unimportant. The struggle has centered around the supernaturalism which is in Christianity. The Fundamentalist insists there is only one true Gospel. The Modernist insists there are many gospels. The Fundamentalist insists that the Church of Jesus Christ must be pure and present only the true faith. The Modernist wants the church to be inclusive, with all manner of opinions and beliefs represented in it.

The Fundamentalist honors the great creedal confessions of the church. The modernist relegates creeds to the sphere of interesting historical documents and relics. Fundamentalism is forthright, evangelistic. Modernism is deceptive, vague, evasive. The Modernist talks about life without doctrine; deeds without faith.