

The “Scopes monkey trial”

- What happened
- Fundamentalism’s reputation damaged

The legacy of fundamentalism

- Extreme fundamentalism (Bob Jones)
- Moderate fundamentalism (Billy Graham)
- Leaders today (Falwell, Dobson)
- Separation from major denominations
- Tendency to associate doctrinal beliefs with authenticity of faith



Series: God’s Word Across Time
Lesson: Session 24—Fundamentalism

Fundamentalism is NOT:

- A generic term for anyone who is really serious about religion
- Only made up of ignorant or backwards Christians
- Applicable to anyone before the 19th century

So what is it?

- An extremely conservative approach to Protestant Christianity that seeks to defend the faith from modernist or theologically liberal encroachments
- The Good & the Bad
- Theological triage

How it came about

- The Second Great Awakening
 - The legacy of the Founding Fathers
 - Manipulative 'revivals' (Charles Finney)
 - New mainstream Christianity on the wrong side of moral issues
- Christianity under attack in the West from philosophy & naturalism in the sciences
- The Princeton school of theology
- The publication of *The Fundamentals* (1910)

What became 'the fundamentals'?

- Classic orthodox beliefs:
 - The Trinity
 - The virgin birth
 - The Fall
 - Substitutionary atonement
 - Christ's Resurrection & Ascension
 - Truthfulness of miracles
- Doctrines developed in response to challenges of the day (right...?):
 - Biblical inerrancy
 - Young-earth creationism
 - Premillennialism
- Separation from professing Christians who disagreed on these doctrines