

WHAT'S SO BAD ABOUT KESWICK?

Romans 8:1-4, Gal. 2:20, Rom. 12:1-2

Intr.: common among fundamentalists to speak flippantly. The movement has drawn complaints.

1. Traces to Higher Life, mid 1800's. Meetings in Oxford, Brighton, 1875. Then invitation from Canon Harford Battersby to meet at Keswick for week of Bible and prayer. Almost every July since then.
2. In N. America: Canadian, New Jersey. Moody, Scofield, Chafer, Columbia Bib. C., Prairie. S.S. Times. MBI, Dallas Sem., Barnhouse, Ketcham, Sugden.
3. The emphases. Leading one: thirst for God?

Christ central. The cross. Resurrection.

Awareness of sin, depravity. Justification by faith, confession, freedom from guilt and defeat. All of grace.

Death to self. NO place for pride. Total surrender.

Holiness. Separation to God from the world.

Daily time in Bible, prayer.

Walk by faith.

Work of the Holy Spirit. Baptism. Filling. Fruit.
Power. Fellowship.

Forthright witness. Missions.

--Thirst for God.

The leading complaints.

1. Bad theology.

Skewed view of sanctification. Comes after conversion.

Believer has both carnal and spiritual natures.

Two stages of the Christian life. Conversion leading to salv., bapt. of Spirit to fullness and maturity
Second work of grace. Carnality a normal state, as is spirituality.

Rejected Lordship salvation.

Against Reformed theology, even though some speakers held it.

2. Focused on individual, on self. Goal: happiness.
3. Left some disillusioned. Couldn't make it work. Conference mentality
4. Pride among leaders.
- (5. Envy?)
- (6. The Keswick message made heavy demands on the saints.)

Development. Still meeting in the town. Large tent.

1956-65, accepted Billy Graham, despite his known links with apostates.

Becoming a business. 2010 drew 12,000, receipts £ 1,000,000
Now meets for three weeks in July.

Reformed control.

Evangelical. Sale of lit., music. 18 CD albums of rock.

Appraisal.

As with fundamentalism, must dist. the idea from the mvt.

Re theology, never a concern so long as Christ was preached
--assumed that the preacher was orthodox. The key was Bible preaching by noted preachers.

Re leading ideas, what can we object to? How often are the ideas being preached?

Most were premil., but little on prophecy or separation from apostasy.

Famine in the land?

Curious development. July 3-5 conference at Metro. Tab., London. Peter Masters. Strongly Reformed, but program reads like a Keswick schedule before 1950: spiritual life.