

# Week 12 19th–20th Century Theologians

## 1. Overview

- 1) The 19th and 20th centuries were a period of dramatic transformation in theology following the Enlightenment.
  - 2) Theologians addressed reason, history, existence, and revelation in new ways.
- 

## 2. Historical Background

- 1) Rise of Enlightenment rationalism
  - 2) Development of biblical criticism
  - 3) Industrial Revolution and social change
  - 4) World Wars and existential crisis
- 

## 3. Major Theologians and Ideas

- 1) Liberal Theology
    - (1) Representative: Friedrich Schleiermacher
    - (2) Key Ideas:
      - ① Religion as “feeling of absolute dependence”
      - ② Human experience–centered theology
      - ③ Reduction of supernatural elements
- 

## 2) Historical Jesus Research

- (1) Representative: Albrecht Ritschl
  - (2) Key Ideas:
    - ① Focus on historical Jesus
    - ② Ethical Kingdom of God
    - ③ Moral interpretation of faith
- 

## 3) Dialectical Theology (Neo–Orthodoxy)

- (1) Representative: Karl Barth
  - (2) Key Ideas:
    - ① God’s absolute transcendence
    - ② Restoration of revelation–centered theology
    - ③ Critique of human reason
- 

## 4) Existential Theology

- (1) Representative: Rudolf Bultmann
  - (2) Key Ideas:
    - ① Demythologization
    - ② Emphasis on personal decision
    - ③ Modern reinterpretation of Scripture
- 

#### 5) Theology of Hope

- (1) Representative: Jürgen Moltmann
  - (2) Key Ideas:
    - ① Eschatological focus
    - ② Future-oriented faith
    - ③ Hope in suffering
- 

#### 4. Summary of Theological Trends

Movement	Characteristics
Liberal Theology	Human-centered, experience-focused
Neo-Orthodoxy	God-centered, revelation-focused
Existentialism	Emphasis on personal decision
Modern Theology	Social and historical engagement

---

#### 5. Pauline Theological Evaluation

- 1) Shift from gospel-centered to human-centered theology
  - 2) Overemphasis on reason and experience
  - 3) Weakening of core gospel truths
  - 4) Pauline theology emphasizes:
    - (1) Grace alone
    - (2) Faith alone
    - (3) Christ crucified
- 

#### 6. Discussion Questions

- 1) Why did liberal theology emerge?
  - 2) What did Karl Barth seek to restore?
  - 3) What are the strengths and limits of existential theology?
  - 4) How should modern theology be evaluated through Paul's gospel?
- 

#### 7. Conclusion

- 1) 19th–20th century theology reflects humanity's struggle to understand God in a modern world.
- 2) However, true theology must remain grounded in God's revelation and grace.