

Church History

Senior § 10

Now I don't think we need to take much time here for the other great evangelists who have been, who have affected American life. You might say from 1740 till about 1920 or 25 was the great era of evangelism in America and during all that period there were great revivals in every generation, great sweepings of men into the kingdom, until we got the radio and the moving pictures became so wide spread, all since about 1920 or 1925, and the general mind of the American public became so filled with easy means for amusement that a great many who would have come into meetings like that, simply looking for something of interest, and then been subject to the presentation of the gospel, are no longer so easily reached in that means. A different type of evangelism seems to be required for the present conditions.

Now I want to just mention D, the Church of England in the 19th century, and particularly to mention the different groups which were in the Church of England. We noticed its very loose type of organization. One Charles Simeon was a pastor in Cambridge who died in 1836, and Charles Simeon at Cambridge held what he called "conversation parties", parties in which he gathered young men around him to discuss matters of interest to them and always led the discussion of the Word of God and their spiritual needs, and out of this there developed an organization in Cambridge in which they called the Cambridge Intercollegiate Christian Union, CICCUC, or as the British would do, they simply called it the Ciccuc because they like to call things by initials. (Student) Cambridge Intercollegiate Christian Union, CICCUC. They called it the Ciccuc. Now the Ciccuc was an organization which from that day to this has carried on extensive work in the different causes of Cambridge and has without interruption consistently carried on a fine Christian testimony in that great university. In Oxford, at the same time that the Ciccuc was starting in Cambridge, there was another brilliant preacher in town, a young man named Newman, but a man of very different type from Simeon, and at this same period, preaching in Oxford, was putting his