



Ordinary People Extraordinary Things

Bruce Ballast

Session 9: Decline Again

1875 to 1900 “The critical period in
American Religion.”

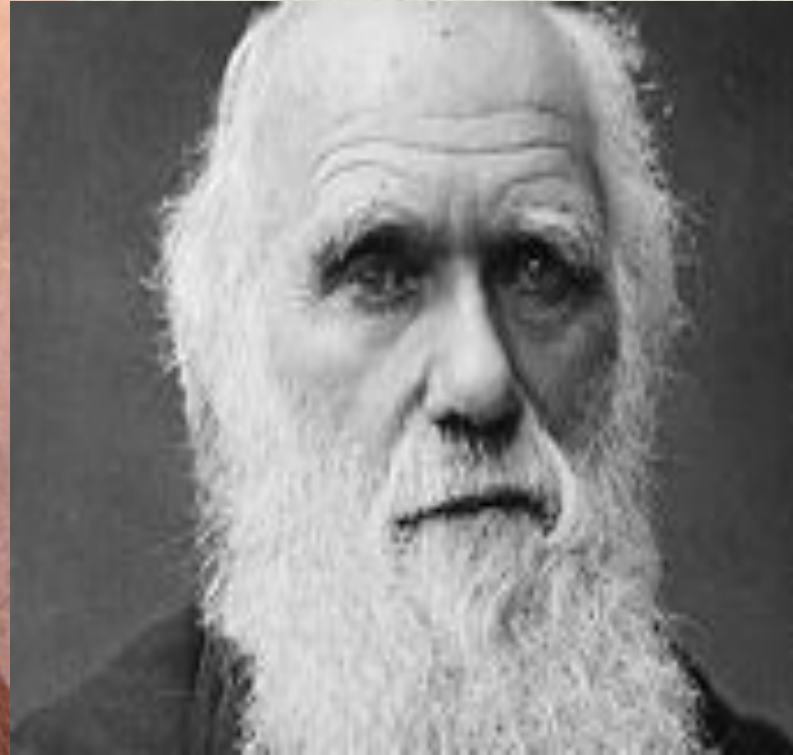
Arthur Schlesinger



Session 9: Decline Again

Darwin

Session 9: Decline Again



Session 9: Decline Again

1825 Edinburgh for Medicine

1827 Cambridge for holy orders

1831 Bachelor of Arts

Session 9: Decline Again

HMS Beagle
1831



Session 9: Decline Again

Galapagos
Islands



Session 9: Decline Again

October 2, 1836 Back in England

November 24, 1859 “The Origin of
Species”

Session 9: Decline Again

Darwin

Historical Criticism

Julius Wellhausen

1878



Session 9: Decline Again

Darwin

Historical Criticism

Julius Wellhausen

1878

Adolf Van Harnack

1900



Session 9: Decline Again

Darwin

Historical Criticism

Immigration

Session 9: Decline Again



Chicago, 1833

Session 9: Decline Again

1900 -
1,698,575



Session 9: Decline Again

Darwin

Historical Criticism

Immigration

1860 to 1900 14 million

1900 to 1920

Session 9: Decline Again

Darwin

Historical Criticism

Immigration

Wealth

Session 9: Decline Again

Darwin
Historical Criticism
Immigration
Wealth
Infidels

Robert Ingersoll



Session 9: Decline Again

From every sector the problems converged: the Enlightenment's triumphant confidence in science and in nature's law, the multiform romantic heresy that religion was essentially feeling or poetic exaltation, that nature was a cathedral and communing in it a sacrament;

Session 9: Decline Again

the disruption of the Creation story and the biblical time scale; the evolutionary transformation of the old notion that the world's orderliness bespoke God's benevolent design; the historical criticism of the Bible, the relativization of the church and its teachings,

Session 9: Decline Again

The denial of human freedom and moral responsibility, and even the abolition of those eternal standards by which right and wrong, the false and the true were to be judged.

Session 9: Decline Again

All this had to be faced, moreover, in the new urban jungles of the Gilded Age, where Americans seemed to be chiefly bent on getting and spending and laying waste their powers. Never in the history of Christianity, it would seem, was a weak and disunited Christian regiment drawn into a battle

Session 9: Decline Again

against so formidable an alliance,
under such unfavorable conditions of
climate and weather, and with so little
information on the position and intent
of the opposition.

Session 9: Decline Again

Darwin

Historical Criticism

Immigration

Wealth

Infidels

Liberal Theology

Session 9: Decline Again

1. Man's free will and natural tendency to do good.
2. Education in morals
3. History is evolution
4. Divinity of Jesus debated
5. Religious education is the purpose of the church.

Session 9: Decline Again

Darwin

Historical Criticism

Immigration

Wealth

Infidels

Liberal Theology

Social Gospel

Session 9: Decline Again

Darwin

Historical Criticism

Immigration

Wealth

Infidels

Liberal Theology

Social Gospel

Session 9: Decline Again

Charles Sheldon
In His Steps



Session 9: Decline Again

Charles Sheldon

In His Steps

Walter

Rauschenbusch

“Christianity and the
Social Crisis” 1907



Walter Rauschenbusch

Session 9: Decline Again

Last May a miracle happened. At the beginning of the week the fruit trees bore brown and greenish buds. At the end of the week they were robed in bridal garments of blossom. But for weeks and months the sap had been rising and distending the cells and maturing the tissues

Session 9: Decline Again

which were half ready in the fall before.

The swift unfolding was the culmination of a long process.

Perhaps these nineteen centuries of Christian influence have been along preliminary stage of growth, and now the flower and the fruit are almost here.

Session 9: Decline Again

If at this juncture we can rally sufficient religious faith and moral strength to snap the bonds of evil and turn the present unparalleled economic and intellectual resources of humanity to the harmonious development of true social life, the generations yet unborn will make this as

Session 9: Decline Again

that great day of the Lord for which the ages waited, and count us blessed for sharing in the apostolate that proclaimed it.

Session 9: Decline Again

Darwin Progressive
Historical Criticism Orthodoxy
Immigration
Wealth
Infidels
Liberal Theology
Social Gospel

Session 9: Decline Again

Darwin Progressive
Historical Criticism Orthodoxy
Immigration Fundamentalism
Wealth
Infidels
Liberal Theology
Social Gospel

Session 9: Decline Again

Literal infallibility of the Bible

Virgin birth

Substitutionary Atonement

Resurrection

Imminent, bodily, pre-millennial second
coming of Christ