

# Problems and Misunderstandings

— that cause confusion, weakness, and division  
among fundamentalists

by David C. Innes

1. The idea that biblical commands concerning unity and separation are mutually exclusive, that somehow, the commands concerning love and unity don't rightly apply to fundamentalists.
2. Failure to distinguish between various categories of truth that we teach both in emphasis and level of authority, basically treating every notion and method regardless of how founded or unfounded it may be in relation to the Scriptures as being essential to fundamentalism -- and thereby a test of fellowship.
3. The inability to distinguish between fellowship on an individual basis and joint participation on a church basis — to recognize that fellowship on an individual basis does not require agreement on all minor details, and regarding such fellowship as compromise.
4. Failure to regard *obedience* (to clear commands of Scripture) to be equally essential to fundamentalism with *belief* (of clearly revealed truth), and the resulting erroneous assumption that mere agreement on six or seven fundamental doctrines makes one a fundamentalist.
5. Relating fundamentalism to personalities rather than to clearly taught biblical principles along with failure to understand and identify these principles.
6. Confusing cultural traditions and certain methods or philosophies of ministry with timeless fundamental truth and clearly revealed biblical principles, assuming that conformity to certain outward standards and practices makes one a fundamentalist.
7. Failure to regard the clear commands concerning separation from apostates and willfully disobedient brethren as essential to a fundamentalist position.
8. They are success oriented — the end justifies the means.

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| [Top](#) | [Home](#) | [Previous](#) | [Next](#) | [Index of Articles](#) |

69,113