WHAT IS A FUNDAMENTALIST?

by David C. Innes

A fundamentalist is one who believes and obeys everything that is clearly taught in the Scriptures. All that is clearly taught, whether for belief or conduct, is fundamental and therefore essential to the Christian faith.

A fundamentalist will separate on the basis of any kind of denial of that which is clearly taught. He will not compromise that which is fundamental. He will separate on the basis of two distinct categories:
Heresy — belief
Willful disobedience — practice

A fundamentalist will separate from either unbelievers or believers who violate fundamental truths or commands of Scripture.

A fundamentalist takes seriously the clear command to love his brethren and to promote biblical unity among his brethren.

A fundamentalist will **fellowship** with all who believe and obey what is clearly taught.

A fundamentalist will **participate** with other fundamentalists to the extent that agreement on other non-fundamental beliefs renders it possible.

A fundamentalist operates on the basis of **principle** (what is involved), not **personality** (who is involved).

EIGHT CHARACTERISTICS OF NEW EVANGELICAL THINKING

(Given by Dr. J. B. Williams)

1. They emphasize love and unity to the exclusion of the truth of separation.

2. They will not separate from religious groups on the ground of doctrinal error.

3. They emphasize scholarship and intellectualism.

4. They praise liberal theologians for their scholarship.

5. They emphasize participation in politics and in social and moral issues.

6. They criticize the fundamentalist even more than the liberals do.

7. They remain strangely silent about apostasy and its evils.

8. They are success oriented -- the end justifies the means.

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