



CHRISTIANITY & LIBERALISM

WEEK ONE INTRODUCTION

J. GRESHAM MACHEN:

THE LIFE / LEGACY
&
100 YEARS OF INFLUENCE
(1923-2023)

REDEEMER
Presbyterian Church / PCA

November, 12, 2023

We start a new series this morning that will go through the end of February 2024 (with multiple weeks off). I will **try** my best to have outline handouts every week... NO PROMISES...

LIVE STREAMING:

For the **FIRST TIME EVER** at Redeemer, thanks to our fantastic crew, we will be **LIVE STREAMING** Sunday School! The video will be on the regular Redeemer YouTube Live website, and the notes plus a link will be on the 'Sunday School portion of the Redeemer website! If, for some reason, you must miss worship, you can now also watch Sunday School!

This study is a labor of love. I pray you will come to love and admire Dr. Machen and *Christianity & Liberalism* as much as I do.

As with every class in our Sunday School, this class always has the same goals. We want to learn something new about the Lord Jesus, His church, and the Reformed faith and ultimately love them all a little better.

Welcome to Winter Sunday School and Dr. Machen!


Mark

Pastor Mark

WEEK ONE OUTLINE: INTRODUCTION

We have three sections today.

Part I – “We Begin at the End”



WE BEGIN AT THE END
December 26, 1936 - Noon

DAY 1
PHILADELPHIA, PA - TEMP 59

At 30th Street Station in Philadelphia, PA. An exhausted (Dassie) Dr. J. Gresham Machen, the 55-year-old President of Westminster Seminary and moderator of the newly formed Presbyterian Church of America (PCA), boards a Train heading to Bismarck, North Dakota.



WE BEGIN AT THE END
January 1st, 1937 7:45 p.m.

DAY 6
BISMARCK, ND TEMP -3


ST. ALECIUS HOSPITAL

"As Machen's brother Arthur and his wife were pulling into the train station in Bismarck, this great soul, noble, courageous, Christian leader breathed his last, and his soul went to be with his Lord."

THE PRESBYTERIAN GUARDIAN, JANUARY 23, 1937

As a quick overview, we will go through the last six days of Machen's life as he travels from Philadelphia over the Christmas break to visit his friend and former student, Rev. Sam Allen, in North Dakota. The circumstances of Machen's tragic death illustrate (ironically) who he was.

J. Gresham Machen
1881-1936



Controversial - Beloved - Feared - Maligned

HIS LAST WEEK ILLUSTRATES WHO MACHEN WAS

- Goat-Like Stubbornness
- A Lover Of All Aspects Of Life
- Fiercely Loyal To Friends & Family
- A Brilliant / Mind
- An Utter Allegiance To Christ And Love Of The Reformed Faith Of The Westminster Confession

Notes:

Part II – An Overview of the Class Schedule

Week By Week

PART I - THE LIFE

(11/12) INTRODUCTION (TODAY)

(11/19) A PRESBYTERIAN ROYAL FAMILY
The Founders & The Movement: His Early Life

(11/26) HAPPY THANKSGIVING

(12/3) ANDREW YOUNG - OXFORD PRES (UK)

(12/10) A PRESBYTERIAN MIND & HEART
Preparation For Ministry - Princeton Theological Seminary


(12/17) A PRESBYTERIAN BATTLE TO DEATH
Machen: The Fighting Fundamentalist

(12/24) MERRY CHRISTMAS (EVE)

(12/31) HAPPY NEW YEAR

(1/7) THE LEGACY: MACHEN & THE OPC
Pastor Mike Chapa tells the story of the OPC

CLASS SCHEDULE



Week By Week

PART II - THE TEXT

(1/14) FUNDAMENTALISTS & MODERNISTS
The Controversial Background of C&L (1923 - 2023)

(1/21) (I - II) INTRODUCTION & DOCTRINE
Chapters 1 & 2

(1/28) (III) GOD & MAN
Chapter 3


(2/4) (IV) THE BIBLE
Chapter 4

(2/11) (V) CHRIST
Chapter 5

(2/18) (VI) SALVATION
Chapter 6

(2/25) (VII) THE CHURCH
Chapter 7

CLASS SCHEDULE



The class will be a total of 11 weeks and breaks down into two headings: The Life & Legacy of Machen and the Text of his 1923 work *Christianity & Liberalism*. You won't want to miss two special guests, Andrew Young from Oxford Presbyterian Church (UK) on *December 3rd* and our own former OPC Minister Mike Chapa on Machen's Legacy on *January 7* after the new year.

Part III – Why a Class on Machen and a Book He Wrote 100 Years ago?

Why Should We Care?

SERIOUSLY PASTOR... GIVE US SOMETHING PRACTICAL

WHY?

Why You Are Going To Love It!

Machen is Us!

1923 is 2023!

Machen is a Rebel, a Prankster, a bit Rude, a Fighter, Rich / Generous, Genuine, Weird / Cool

"YOUR PRIDE AND RELIGIOUS BIGOTRY ARE SHOWING"



FINALLY TODAY!
A Hint of what's coming!




The Enigma That Was Machen, Why I Love Him And Hopefully, You Will Too!

WHAT MAKES MACHEN SO FUN TO READ AND STUDY?

He Opposed Family Friend And President Woodrow Wilson On American Involvement In World War I, Yet As Soon As He Could Served The Cause In France.

So Why?
The Same Always, To Know Christ, His Church, Our Confession A Little Better, And Love Them More...

DEFENDING THE FAITH
J. GRESHAM MACHEN
AND THE FUNDAMENTALIST-MODERNIST CONTROVERSY
D. G. HART

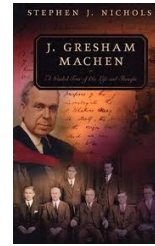
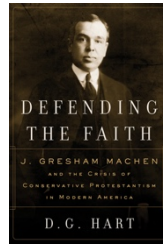
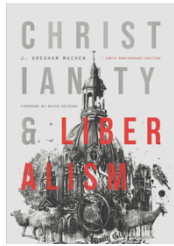




We end today answering the question, "Why study Machen and *Christianity & Liberalism* now?"

Notes:

Class Bibliography

100th
Anniversary
Edition



Main
Machen
Biographies

On The Life of J. Gresham Machen

Stonehouse, Ned B.. *J. Gresham Machen: A Biographical Memoir*. United Kingdom: Banner of Truth Trust, 2019.

Hart, Darryl G., *Defending the Faith: J. Gresham Machen and the crisis of conservative Protestantism in modern America*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 1994.

Nichols, Stephen J. *J. Gresham Machen: A Guided Tour of His Life and Thought*. United States: P & R Publishing, 2004.

Piper, John. *Contending for Our All: Defending Truth And Treasuring Christ In The Lives Of Athanasius, John Owen And J. Gresham Machen*. United Kingdom: IVP, 2020.

Coray, Henry W.. *J. Gresham Machen: A Silhouette*. United States: Kregel Publications, 1981.

Machen, J. Gresham. *Letters from the Front: J. Gresham Machen's Correspondence from World War I*. United States: Westminster Seminary Press, 2012.

Christianity & Liberalism & Other Machen Works Cited

Machen, J. Gresham. *Christianity and Liberalism*. New York: Macmillan, 1923.
(First Edition)

Machen, J. Gresham. *Christianity & Liberalism: 100th Anniversary Edition*. Glenside, PA.: Westminster Seminary Press, 2023.
(The edition I am using – Including the study guide)

Machen, J. Gresham. *Things Unseen: A Systematic Introduction to the Christian Faith and Reformed Theology*. Glenside, PA.: Westminster Seminary Press, 2020.

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Machen, J. Gresham. *The Virgin Birth of Christ*. United Kingdom: Harper, 1932.

Machen, J. Gresham. *The Origin of Paul's Religion*. New York: Macmillan, 1921.