American Church History

Mid-term Study Questions

1. Be familiar with several key elements which have influenced the shape of American religion, i.e., “creative forces.”
2. Be familiar with distinctives of the American church.
3. What colonies in the 1600s had the established Church of England?
4. Which colonies exercised a greater measure of freedom of religion? How were Roger Williams' motivations in RI different from George Calvert's in MD?
5. Briefly describe the Puritan desire, such as John Cotton's, for New England society and its rule. What led to the demise of the Puritan ideal?
6. What was the background, essence, and effects of the half-way covenant in the Congregational Church in New England?
7. How was the time right for the Great Awakening and what were some of its significant results?
9. Name some leaders of the Great Awakening and in what region they primarily ministered.
10. Which three denominations most strongly supported the American Revolution? Why?
11. Which denomination grew the fastest in the 30 years after the Revolution?
12. List key elements in the life and ministry of
   a. Roger Williams
   b. Cotton Mather
   c. Jonathan Edwards
   d. George Whitefield

13. IDENTIFY
   a. John van Mekelenburg
   b. David Brainerd
   c. Alexander Whitaker
   d. Brownists/Separatists
   e. Isaac Backus
   f. Francis Makemie
   g. John Witherspoon
   h. Gilbert Tenant
   i. William Penn
   j. Christopher Saur
   k. John Eliot
   l. Francis Asbury
   m. Moravians
   n. Salzburgers
   o. Henry Muhlenburg
   p. Michael Schlatter
   q. Thomas Bray
   r. John Peter Miller
   s. Samuel Hopkins
   t. Ted Frelinghuysen
   u. Samson Occam
   v. Massachusetts Proposals
   w. Saybrook Platform
   x. Cambridge Platform
   y. George Fox
   z. Moravians
Final Exam Study Questions

1. Note the reasons for the failure of Presbyterians to keep up with Baptists and Methodists in the frontier expansion.
2. Describe the vision and nature of the 1801 Plan of Union.
3. Describe the frontier Baptist church and its leadership.
4. Describe the objections and background for frontier objections to voluntary religious organizations.
5. What was the background behind the Presbyterian Old School/New School split?
6. What was the third great awakening?
7. How did the slavery issue impact the various denominations?
8. Describe the influence of social wealth/modern business upon the church at the end of the 1800s.
9. What was the background of the “holiness movement”? What churches came out of it?
10 Describe the involvement of Christians and churches in the temperance/prohibition movement.
11 What was the modernist-fundamentalist dispute of the 1920s-30s? Who was involved?

IDENTIFY

William White
Father David Rice
1801 Plan of Union
John Taylor
Francis Asbury
Timothy Dwight
Samuel J. Mills
Dedham Case in MA
James McGready
Barton Stone
The Christian Church
Alexander Campbell
Cumberland Presbyterians
Shakers
Evangelical Church
United Brethren Church
“Benevolent Empire”
AHMS: American Home Missionary Society
American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
American Bible Society
New Haven Theology
Nathaniel Taylor
Horace Bushnell
“Moral Influence” Theory
William Ellery Channing
Bennet Tyler
Charles Finney
Lyman Beecher
Charles Hodge
Mercersburg Theology
“The Anxious Bench”
Philip Schaff
Albert Barnes

“elective affinity”
Bishop John H. Hobart
Samuel S. Schmucker
Bishop John Hughes
Marcus Whitman
Henry Ward Beecher
John Carroll
Reformed Church in America
C.W. Walther
“Continental Sabbath”
Sheldon Jackson
Dwight L. Moody
Augustus H. Strong
The Social Gospel
Washington Gladden
Walter Rauschenbusch
Charles A. Briggs
Harry Emerson Fosdick
Scopes Monkey Trial
The Fundamentals: A Testimony to the Truth
The Five Fundamentals
Auburn Affirmation
Rethinking Missions
John Gresham Machen
Christian Reformed Church
“Common Grace Issue”
Reinhold Niebuhr
Nat’l Assoc. of Evangelicals and Harold Okenga
Madelyn Murray O’Hare
Vatican II and the American Church
Consultation on Church Union
Reimagining Conference, 1993