

GRACE GROUP QUESTIONS

November 8, 2017

Questions for Lesson 9 - Wednesday, November 1

On Being Presbyterian by Dr. Sean Michael Lucas

“The Golden Age: American Presbyterians in the Nineteenth Century”

1. What are some commonalities in the way Presbyterians approached religious life and ministry? What are some differences?
2. The four issues that led to tension in the church in the 1830s - revivalism, social reform, interdenominational cooperation, and theological innovation - are still with us today. How should contemporary Presbyterians evaluate the solutions that our forefathers developed?
3. Where do your sympathies lie - with the New School or with the Old School? What were some positive contributions made by the “other” school? What were some negative aspects of the school you favor?
4. The reunions between the New School and Old School North and South were based on subscription to the Westminster Standards “pure and simple.” Yet it does not appear that this worked out well in the North, as evidenced by the Swing trial. How does that historical situation inform the way contemporary Presbyterians should see ecumenical relations and even future unions with other Presbyterian denominations?
5. Did it surprise you to find out that the Princeton theologians - arch defenders of inerrancy - were also convinced evolutionists? How should that fact nuance the way we approach differences on the days of creation, if at all?



INDEPENDENT
Presbyterian Church