IONA School for Ministry

18th and 19th Centuries – Church of England

Study Guide

March 18, 2023

**Assignment:** Read Chapters 18-25 in *Not Angels but Anglicans,* pp. 161-232. Note: Chapters 18 & 19 cover the period between the Reformation in the 16th century to the 17th and the Puritan Revolution. Please read and mark them, however, we’ll be focusing our attention on the movements of the 18th and 19th centuries.

**Course description**: This session will cover the major social and political events that shaped the life of the church and her leaders during both the 18th and 19th centuries in England. We’ll pay special attention to the leaders of the Evangelical movement in the 18th century and the leaders of the Oxford movement in the 19th century.

**Objectives**: the students attending this session will become familiar with the impact of the movements of these two centuries in the life of the church both in England and North America as well as the emergence of the Anglican communion. (See the TEAC – Theological Education for the Anglican Communion – H.3, K.3). Students will reflect on the lasting influence of these movements on church ministry today.

**Chapter 18** – “How the old Church grew its Backbone” Pay attention to the upheaval that the Puritan revolution caused in both politics and the church. How did the Church of England recover? Read the sections on Richard Baxter, Jeremy Taylor, and Simon Patrick. The chronology on page 168 will provide a helpful overview of the 17th century events.

**Chapter 19** – “Becoming High and Mighty” What are the three parts of the Reformation in the Church of England? What happened during the period called the Restoration? How did the church move away from the influences of Luther and Calvin? Who was called “the champion of orthodoxy”? Describe the importance of the 1662 Prayer Book. What was the Revolution of 1688?

What was the Act of Settlement in 1701?

**Chapter 20 –** “The Moderate Men in Charge” Why was Anglicanism defined negatively? Think of ways it is defined positively. Describe the “ethos of moderation.” What was remarkable about the ministry of Archbishop Secker? What gave rise to Methodism?

**Chapter 21 –** “The Man the Church of England Couldn’t Contain”. Read the contemporary descriptions of John Wesley. What kind of man do they describe? What was the pursuit of holiness? How did Methodism capture so many hearts of men and women in England? What was Wesley’s system? Why did Wesley allow women to become preachers even though they couldn’t be ordained? What was the key to the power of his preaching? How did Wesley’s politics influence his theology?

**Chapter 22** – “When one Revival led to another” How would you describe “Victorian Anglicanism” in the 19th century? How was it the product of two revivals: Evangelical and Anglo-Catholic? What was the Clapham sect and what did they accomplish? Who was the most important leader of the Oxford Movement? How did it begin? What were the most important changes in the Church during the 19th century?

**Chapter 23** – “All Things that Give Sound” This is an overview of the development of church music in England. Note the description-- “Music in church: we survey its history, with special emphasis on hymns and recent challenges to their supremacy.”

Choose a hymn composed during the 18th or 19th century in English. Be prepared to discuss in a small group how this hymn teaches us theology and still influences our worship today. For example: “Amazing Grace” by John Newton.

**Chapter 24 –** “When the Faith was Set Free”. What was the struggle between the Church and the State during the 19th century? Who were the Non-conformists and what was the identity of the Free Church? How did Roman Catholicism also re-emerge during this century? What was the Emancipation? What gave rise to Denominationalism?

**Chapter 25** – “Scholars, Slums and Socialists”. Who were the eminent lay people in the church? What role did they play in society? What were the most important social challenges facing the church? What gave rise to Christian Socialism? How did the Anglican Communion come into being during the 19th century? What event called for the first Lambeth Conference?

**Evaluation:** your grade will be based on the discussion of the hymn you choose as well as a take home essay.

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Church of England in the 18th and 19th Centuries

Exam:

1. Choose a hymn composed during the 18th or 19th century in English. Be prepared to discuss in a small group how this hymn teaches us theology and still influences our worship today. For example: “Amazing Grace” by John Newton.
2. In an essay of three pages answer the following questions: Although the Evangelical and Oxford Movements were quite different in their approaches to theology, evangelism, liturgy and ecclesiology what did they have in common? How did the leaders and followers in these movements manage to stay in the Church of England? How do we still live within the tension between Evangelicals and Anglo-Catholics in the Episcopal Church today?