

TRENDS IN MISSIONS: TOWARDS A NEW PARADIGM FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

<i>MODERN ERA</i>	<i>POST MODERN ERA</i>	<i>POST-POST MODERN ERA</i>
Colonial	Anti-Colonial	Beyond anti-colonial
Christianity = Western Christianity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - western worship styles - western ecclesiology - western theology is universal and timeless 	Christianity express in all cultures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - culturally appropriate worship styles - culturally appropriate ecclesiologies - self-theologizing and theologies must address issues in the context 	Unity of church underlying diversity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - local and global worship styles - local ecclesiologies, global networks - seeking to find the unchanging theological universals underlying contextualized theologies
Unity is based on uniformity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - metaphor: photograph 	Diversity is celebrated <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - metaphor: collage 	Diversity given meaning in larger unity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - metaphor: montage
Noncontextualization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gospel is ahistorical and acultural truth to be believed - pagan cultures are seen as evil, our culture is seen as good 	Uncritical contextualization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gospel must be expressed and understood in particular contexts - all cultures are seen as neutral or good and capable of communicating the Gospel, Sin is in individuals. 	Critical contextualization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Gospel is universal, it must be communicated in particular contexts, it calls for response and transformation - all cultures are seen as a mix of good and evil. We need a process to test them and call for transformation. Sin is both individual and corporate.
Positivist epistemology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - knowledge is objective, ahistorical, acultural truth to be believed [feelings, values and community hermeneutics contaminate truth] 	Instrumentalist/Idealist epistemology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - knowledge is personal, perspectival, and affectively loaded. [experience is central to knowing] 	Critical realist epistemology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - knowledge is combines both objective and subjective realities, and should lead to a moral response and a changed allegiance

- the goal is to develop a Grand Unified Theory explaining everything

- built on intrinsic-bounded sets and algorithmic logic

- the Gospel is truth to be believed

- Grand Unified Theories are suspect as hegemonic and oppressive

- built on intrinsic-fuzzy sets [and fuzzy logic?]

- the Gospel is experience to be felt

- knowledge is perspectival and context based, but comparison and community hermeneutics can lead us to an understanding of greater Truth

- built on relational sets and stress on wisdom in which different logics are used

- the Gospel is truth to be believed, and experience to be felt which lead to following Christ and moral transformation

Supernatural/Natural Dualism

- split between natural [run by laws of nature] and miracles [acts of God]
- separation of evangelism and social gospel.

New Spirituality

- wholism, rejection of all dualisms
- inner subjective spirituality
- spirituality as therapy

Creator/Creation contingent dualism

- Biblical holism: evangelism, church, Kingdom of God, King Jesus Christ
- spirituality is relationship to God, to sisters and brothers, and the world