

## What It Means to Be Reformed

*Where we are going in this course*

- I. The Label “Reformed”
  
- II. The Ten Areas We Will Discuss
  - A. Nature and Use of Scripture
  - B. God is Sovereign
  - C. Covenantal Structure of Scripture
  - D. Plan of Salvation
  - E. All Embracing World View
  - F. Concept of Holiness
  - G. Church Government
  - H. Sacraments
  - I. Evangelism
  - J. Worship

*Text*

Coppes, Leonard – *Are Five Points Enough, The Ten Points of Calvinism*

*Suggested Reading List*

- Packer, J. I. – *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*<sup>1</sup>
- Pink, A. W. – *The Sovereignty of God*<sup>1</sup>
- Young, Edward J. – *The God Breathed Scripture*<sup>1</sup>
- Robbins, John W. & Gerety, Sean – *Not Reformed at All*<sup>2</sup>
- Robbins, John W. – *Christ & Civilization*<sup>2</sup>
- Jones, Paul S. – *Singing and Making Music, Issues in Church Music Today*<sup>2</sup>
- Hansen, Collin – *Young, Restless, Reformed*<sup>1</sup>

- Boettner, Loraine – *The Reformed Doctrine of Predestination*<sup>1</sup>
- *The Westminster Standards*<sup>3</sup>

Available from:

<sup>1</sup> - The Evangelical Bible Book Store, 619-291.4381, [www.ebiblebookstore.com/](http://www.ebiblebookstore.com/)

<sup>2</sup> - The Trinity Foundation, 423.743.0199, [www.trinityfoundation.org](http://www.trinityfoundation.org)

<sup>3</sup> – The Orthodox Presbyterian Church, 215-830-0900, [www.opc.org](http://www.opc.org)

### *Homework*

1. Read the chapter in Coppes' book before each class discussion of the topic
2. From the following the following scripture passages, memorize those you don't know:  
 2 Timothy 3: 14 – 17  
 Ephesians 2: 1 – 3, 8 – 10  
 1 Corinthians 10:31  
 Psalms 1, 23, 100  
 John 3:16  
 1 Peter 1: 13 - 16
3. Memorize the structure of Romans, Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians and 1 Peter

### I. The Label "Reformed"

A. The reason for the title of the text

B. The use of labels

C. What does the label "Reformed" mean?

## II. The Ten Areas We Will Discuss

### A. The Nature and Use of Scripture

#### 1. Scripture's view of itself

2 Timothy 3:14 - 17

2 Peter 1:20 - 21

1 Peter 1:22 – 2:3

#### 2. Definition of Scripture (from Coppes)

God Speaking

About Christ

To Men

### 3. Use of Scripture

Perspicuity

Verbalization

Coherence

Effectiveness

### 4. Thoughts on Joshua 1:8 and Proverbs 3:5 & 6

## B. God is Sovereign

### 1. Definition

Three parts

### 2. Should we deal with this subject?

WCF III, 8

What is the result of believing this?

How do you get that result?

### 3. Scriptural References

Psalm 33

Notice the progression in the thought. What does it remind you of?

Isaiah 46

God has a plan

God executes the plan

Ephesians 1:3 - 6

1 Thessalonians 1: 4 - 10

Genesis 50:19f and Acts 2:22f

4. What is outside of God's sovereignty? What does this say about bad events that happen (like the little girl in 2 Kings 5 who was kidnapped, Sept 11, 2001 and Hurricane Katrina)?

5. Arguments against the sovereignty of God

It's not fair

It leads to fatalism

It discourages evangelism

## C. The Covenantal View of Scripture

### 1. Our relationship to Adam

Genesis 3: 1 - 19

Romans 5:12

1 Corinthians 15:20 - 23

### 2. The question of continuity and discontinuity between the testaments

Scripture's historical progression

How much of the OT relates to us today?

2 Timothy 3:16 – 17

1 Timothy 1:3 - 11

Romans 13:8 – 14

3. Excurses on hermeneutics – The NT's use of the OT  
Christocentric:

Matthew 2:15 & Hosea 11:1

Acts 2:25f & Psalm 16:8f

Galatians 3:13 & Deuteronomy 21:23

Hebrews 10:1 – 10 & Psalm 40:6f

Non-Christocentric

Romans 8:36 & Psalm 44:22

Hebrews 12:5f & Proverbs 3:11f

1 Peter 3:6 & Genesis 18:12

James 5:17f & 1 Kings 17:1; 18:42

What principles do we deduce?

Our method should be the Holy Spirit's method

See Christ in the OT – 1 Peter 1:10 - 12

Remember our continuity and discontinuity

Example – how do we read Psalm 1?



## D. The Plan of Salvation

### 1. Total Depravity of Man

#### Three terms

Original Sin

Total Depravity

Total Inability

#### Scriptural proof

Genesis 6:5

Romans 3

Ephesians 2:1 – 3

Colossians 1:21

John 3:1 – 7

John 6:44

John 8:43

John 10:25f

Romans 8:7f

1 Corinthians 2:14

Ephesians 4:17f

Man in his four fold state

Able to sin, able not to sin

Not able not to sin

Able to sin, able not to sin

Not able to sin

## 2. Unconditional Election

### Terms

The decrees of God

Predestination

Election

Reprobation

### Scripture Proof

John 6:32 - 40

John 10:26 (note the context from verse 11 on)

Acts 13:48

Romans 8:28f

Romans 9:1 - 33

Ephesians 1:3 – 6, 11

1 Thessalonians 1:4

2 Thessalonians 2:13 – 17

1 Peter 1:2

1 Peter 2:8 & Romans 9:22

The question this answers: If Total Depravity is true, how will anyone be saved?

A full statement of the doctrine: WCF, Chapter 3

### 3. Limited Atonement

The issue here

Intent

Salvation accomplished or salvation possible

Scriptural terms for Christ's Work

Redeemer

Matthew 20:28

Acts 20:28

1 Corinthians 6:20

1 Peter 1: 19 & 20

Titus 2:14

Savior

Matthew 1:21

Ephesians 2:8 & 9

Ephesians 5:23 - 27

The point here: What Jesus came to do He accomplished. Are ransomed / redeemed / saved people in hell? Hebrews 9:12