

Belgic Confession of Faith (1561)

Leader: Article II - By What Means God Is Made Known unto Us

People: We know Him by two means: First, by the creation, preservation, and government of the universe; which is before our eyes as a most elegant book, wherein all creatures, great and small, are as so many characters leading us to *see clearly the invisible things of God, even his everlasting power and divinity*, as the apostle Paul says. All which things are sufficient to convince men and leave them without excuse.¹ Second, He makes Himself more clearly and fully known to us by His holy and divine Word,² that is to say, as far as is necessary for us to know in this life, to His glory and our salvation.³

Scriptural texts that apply:

¹ *“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.”* (Psalm 19:1-3) *“Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.”*²⁰ *For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.”* (Rom. 1:19-20)

² *“The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.”* (Psalm 19:7-8)

³ *“And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”* (2 Tim 3:15-17). *“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”* (1 Pet. 1:23)