

**The 1689 Confession of Faith; Chapter 2 – “Of God and the Holy Trinity”,
Message # 33 – “God Showing Us Good”, Presented in the Adult
Sunday School Class, by Pastor Paul Rendall
on April 23rd, 2017.**

Chapter 2 – Of God and the Holy Trinity, Paragraph 1 -

The Lord our God is but (a)one only living and true God; whose (b)subsistence is in and of Himself, (c)infinite in being and perfection; whose essence cannot be comprehended by any but Himself; (d)a most pure spirit, (e) invisible, without body, parts, or passions, who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; who is (f)immutable, (g)immense, (h)eternal, incomprehensible, (i)almighty, every way infinite, (k)most holy, most wise, most free, most absolute; (l)working all things according to the counsel of his own immutable and most righteous will, (m)for his own glory; most loving, gracious, merciful, long-suffering, abundant in goodness and truth, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin; (n)the rewarder of them that diligently seek him, and withal most just (o)and terrible in his judgments, (p)hating all sin, and who will by no means clear the (q)guilty.

a 1st Corinthians 8: 4 and 6; Deuteronomy 6: 4; b Jeremiah 10: 10; Isa 48: 12; c Exodus 3: 14; d John 4: 24; e 1st Timothy 1: 17; Deut. 4: 15-16; f Malachi 3:6; g 1st Kings 8: 27; Jeremiah 23: 23; h Psalm 90: 2; j Genesis 17: 1; k Isa 6: 3; l Psalm 115: 3; Isa 46: 10; m Pro 16: 4; Rom 11: 36; n Exodus 34: 6-7; Hebrews 11:6; o Nehemiah 9: 32-33; p Psalm 5: 5-6; q Exodus 34:7; Nahum 1: 2-3

1. We ought to Praise God because He is the Giver of every good and perfect gift.

James 1: 16 and 17 – “Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren.” “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.”

Psalm 4: 6-8 – “There are many who say, ‘Who will show us any good?’ “Lord, lift up the light of Your countenance upon us.” “You have put gladness in my heart, more than in the season that their grain and wine increased.” “I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”

Stephen Charnock says: “God is above the imperfection of all creatures; creatures are but drops of goodness, at best but shallow streams ; God is like a teeming ocean, that can fill the largest as well as the narrowest creek. He hath an accumulating goodness ; several creatures answer several necessities, but one God can answer all our wants ; he hath an universal fulness, to overtop our universal emptiness ; he contains in himself the sweetness of all other goods, and holds in his bosom plentifully what creatures have in their natures sparingly. Creatures are uncertain goods ; as they begin to exist, so they may cease to be ; they may be gone with a breath, they will certainly languish if God blows upon them, Isa. 40: 24. The same breath that raised them, can blast them, but who can rifle God of the least part of his excellency? Mutability is inherent in the nature of every creature as a creature. All sublunary things are as gourds, that refresh us one moment with their presence, and the next fret us with their absence ; like fading flowers strutting to-day, and drooping to-morrow, Isa. xl. 6. While we possess them, we cannot clip their wings that may carry them away from us, and may make us vainly seek what we thought we firmly held. But God is as permanent a good, as he is a real one; he hath wings to fly to them that seek him, but no wings to fly from them forever, and leave them. God is an universal good. That which is good to one, may be evil to another ; what is desirable by one, may be refused as inconvenient for another; but God being an universal, unstained good, is useful for all, convenient to the natures of all, but such as will continue in enmity against him. There is nothing in God can displease a soul that desires to please him : when we are darkness, he is a light to scatter it ; when we are in want, he hath riches to relieve us ; when we are in a spiritual death, he is a prince of life to deliver us ; when we are defiled, he is holiness to purify us. It is in vain to fix our hearts anywhere but on him, in the desire of whom there is a delight, and in the enjoyment of whom there is an inconceivable pleasure. Vol. 2, Pages 391, 392