

The Canons of Dort (1619)

**Third and Fourth Heads of Doctrine  
(The Corruption of Man, His Conversion to God,  
and the Manner Thereof)**

**LORD'S DAY #27**

**Article 8**

**Leader:** As many as are called by the gospel are unfeignedly called. For God has most earnestly and truly declared in His Word what is acceptable to Him, namely, that those who are called should come unto Him. He also seriously promises rest of soul and eternal life to all who come to Him and believe.

**Article 9**

**People:** **It is not the fault of the gospel, nor of Christ offered therein, nor of God, who calls men by the gospel and confers upon them various gifts, that those who are called by the ministry of the Word refuse to come and be converted.**

**Leader:** The fault lies in themselves; some of whom when called, regardless of their danger, reject the Word of life; others, though they receive it, suffer it not to make a lasting impression on their heart; therefore, their joy, arising only from a temporary faith, soon vanishes, and they fall away; while others choke the seed of the Word by perplexing cares and the pleasures of this world, and produce no fruit. This our Savior teaches in the parable of the sower.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Matt. 13