

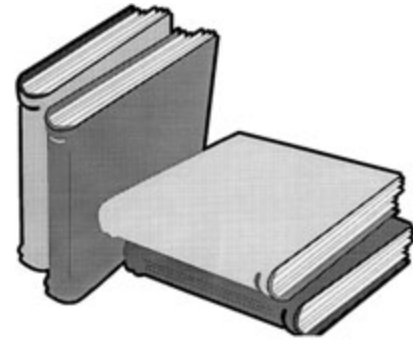
# The Rock and Pit

*Look unto the rock whence ye are hewn,  
and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged.*

Isa 51:1

Selections from the Christian's heritage in print,

collected by Dean Brown



Special Issue for May 5 2019

## **Synod of Dort, 1. Nov 13, 1618 - May 9, 1619.**

Observe that the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the closing of this Synod is next Thursday.

That **the great Synod of Dort\*** deserves to be remembered as one of the two or three decisive events in the history of the Netherlands has been widely recognized by historians. ... Calvinism was the last of the [reformation] movements to gain a foothold in the Netherlands. Its appearance in organized form can hardly be said to antedate the year 1544. [Luther's 95 theses, the beginning of the Reformation, were posted in 1517. The Presbyterian **Westminster Confession and Catechisms** of 1647-8, standards of our church, include this teaching.]

Peter DeJong, then professor of Practical Theology at Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids.

**On the subject of predestination there is one voice on all essential elements of the doctrine.** ... There is what must be called **the consensus of Reformed theology.** Our debt is unmeasured. It is also one to humble us. In no doctrine is the *solī Deo gloria* [only to God give glory] more demanded of us. ... **Nowhere in the compass of theological formulation is the praise of God's glory more central than in the work of Calvin, Dort, and Westminster.**

John Murray, then professor emeritus of Systematic Theology at Westminster Theological Seminary, [Presbyterian], Philadelphia.

*From Peter DeJong, ed, Crisis in the Reformed Churches:  
Essays in commemoration of the great Synod of Dort, 1618-1619.  
Reformed Fellowship, Inc., Grand Rapids, 1968.*

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.

\***Dort** is a short form of the name of the city of Dordrecht in the Netherlands.