

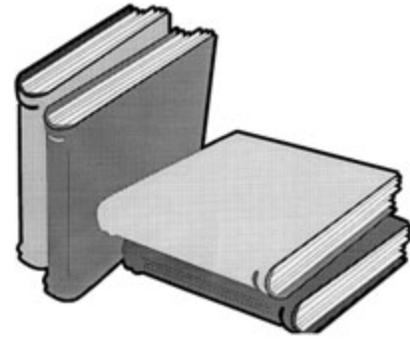
The Rock and Pit

*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 19, 2019.

Synod of Dort, 3. Nov 13, 1618 - May 9, 1619.

Reformed confessional theology is a statement of faith set within a story of faith. As statements of believed truths, confessions express the mind of God's people embracing God's world.

If we neglect the church's historic statements of faith, we end up with mindless and spineless Christianity—more fit to drift like a jelly fish than to swim against the stream of this world. Confession of faith is an essential act of courageous Christianity, as we see from the living history of the people who wrote these declarations. ...

Reformed confessional theology was written not to pick a fight but to protect the church in the battles she already faces and to nurture people in the truth. ...

Here we find the Reformed doctrine of salvation focused to a point of intense and brilliant clarity. ...

The Canons of Dort have meant a great deal to me for half a century now, ever since I was converted. When I was a teenager, I struggled with the doctrine of predestination for months until I realized that the canons are scripturally accurate in their biblical, pastoral, sensitive, and warm presentation of this doctrine. ... I learned as a teenager that the great question to be answered is not, How could God reject anyone ... ? but rather, How could God elect anyone and bring His fallen, hell-worthy creatures into heaven to be with Him forever? ... Later on, when doing a doctoral dissertation on assurance of faith for Westminster Theological Seminary, I came to appreciate and treasure the beauty and balance of the canons' treatment of this doctrine. ...

Joel Beeke, In the foreword to Robert Godfrey
*Saving the Reformation:
The Pastoral Theology of the Canons of Dort, 2019,*
in the church library and the bookstall.