

Reformed Christian Worldview
Lesson 11: Faith that does not Restore

I. Review

A. Core Beliefs of a Reformed Christian Worldview

1. Creation 2. Fall 3. Restoration

B. Creation

1. Man reflects the Image of God by doing the things God did in Creation – making, filling, ordering, etc.
2. Four Foundational Relationships in the Created Order
 - a) *The Triune God created man for relationship with him*
 - b) *God created man in His image – with skill, dignity, value*
 - c) *God created man to work with others*
 - d) *God created man to relate to have dominion over the creation (stewardship)*

C. Fall

1. A demonic world exists that is at war with God
2. Man Rebelled against God's Authority
3. Result of the Fall
 - a) *Man's relationship with God is broken*
 - b) *Man's self-conception is broken*
 - c) *Man's relationship with others is broken*
 - d) *Man's relationship to the created order is broken*

D. Restoration

1. God is working now to restore all things to the created norm through Christ
2. Sinners are restored in their Relationship to God by Redemption
3. Complete Restoration is Future
4. How Redemption is Applied to Sinners
 - a) *Repentance - a change of mind*
 - b) *Faith is an instrument; an empty, withered hand by which the elect sinner reaches out to grasp God's promises in the gospel."*
5. Restored to undertake Persevering Works

II. Different types of Faith

A. The Parable of the Sower Matthew 13:3-9

1. _____ – Apostles, Gospel Ministry
2. _____ – Seed- The Gospel, which is cast out without pre-judgment
3. _____ – Different types of “faith” responses to the Gospel

B. Interpretation of the Parable of the Sower - Matt 13:18-23

1. Good soil = Saving Faith (Matt 13:23)
 - a) Gospel is _____ and _____
 - a) Saving Faith always yields _____
 - b) Not all saving faith yields the same _____
2. Faith that does not save
 - a) Road – Matt 13:14-15, 18-19
 - (1) No _____
 - (2) _____ hearts
 - (3) _____ taken away
 - b) Rocky Soil – Matt 13:20-21
 - (1) _____ the Gospel with joy
 - (2) _____ for a time – transient, temporary, fleeting
 - (3) Not _____ in Christ (Romans 11)
 - (4) Falls away, stumbles
 - c) Thorns – Matt 13:22
 - (1) Word is _____
 - (2) Love for the _____ chokes, presses down the word

Reformed Christian Worldview
Lesson 11: Faith that does not Restore

(3) Unfruitfulness (John 15:1-2a,6)

B. Types of Faith that do not Save

1. Faith of Assent - James 2:19-20

a) *Mental* _____

b) _____ *life*

2. False or counterfeit Faith

a) ***A religious life without knowing Christ - Matt. 7:21-23***

(1) _____ of faith, "Lord, Lord"

(2) Performed _____
"in his name"

(3) Caught by Surprise at the Judgment

(a) *Workers of lawlessness*

(b) *I never knew you*

(i) *John 10:14*

(ii) *Galatians 4:9*

(iii) *1 Corinthians 13:1-2*

(iv) *Love of God that comes from
receiving Christ*

d) ***Children of the Devil in the church - Matt 13:24-30***

(1) Wheat = _____ believers

(2) Weeds = _____ believers

(3) Wheat and weeds _____ together
until harvest

(a) *Wheat is _____ into
God's barn*

(b) *Weeds are gathered and _____*

Reformed Christian Worldview
Lesson 11: Faith that does not Restore

e) 1 John 3:9-10

- (1) Those born of God do not practice _____
- (2) Those born of God practice _____
- (3) Those born of God _____ their brother

2. Temporary Faith – Faith that endures only for a while

a) Judas Iscariot

b) Demas (Col. 4:14, Philemon 1:23-24, 2 Timothy 4:10)

III. The True-Faith Test – 2 Corinthians 13:5

A. What's on the test? - Romans 8:9-17

1. _____ Tokens

a) Spirit of Christ _____ (Romans 8:9)

b) Led by the _____ (Romans 8:14)

c) Spirit of _____ (Romans 8:15-16)

2. _____ Fruit

**a) Putting to death the deeds of the _____
(Romans 8:13)**

b) _____ against sin (Romans 8:17)

B. Conclusion: Hebrews 12:1-4

1. Inward focus – Eyes fixed on _____

2. Outward Fruit – Striving against _____

3. A Reformed summary:

“The accompaniments to true faith are repentance, fear of God, holiness, and hope of eternal life. These accompaniments are not perfected at conversion but are a life-long activity of those who have been given the gift of faith by the Holy Spirit.”

IV. For Further Study

- A. **Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter XVI**
- B. **George Whitefield, Sermon 23: “Marks of a True Conversion” in Selected Sermons of George Whitefield, Christian Ethereal Library.**
- C. **George Whitefield, Sermon 42: “Marks of Having Received the Holy Ghost” in Selected Sermons of George Whitefield, Christian Ethereal Library.**
- D. **George Whitefield, Sermon 43: “The Almost Christian” in Selected Sermons of George Whitefield, Christian Ethereal Library. William Buell Sprague (Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication, 1864), University of Michigan Digital Library, Vol.1, 127.**
- E. **Jonathan Edwards, “A Treatise Concerning Religious Affections” in The Works of Jonathan Edwards (Carlisle, Pennsylvania: The Banner of Truth Trust), Vol. 1, 235.**
- F. **Jonathan Edwards, “Persons Ought Not to Rest Ignorant and Unresolved About Their Own State Whether They Be Real Christians or No” in Knowing the Heart: Jonathan Edwards on True and False Conversion, Ed. William C. Nichols (Ames, Iowa: International Outreach, Inc., 2003), 235-277.**
- G. **Samuel Davies, “The Danger of Lukewarmness in Religion”, in Sermons on Important Subjects, 3 vols., ed. William Buell Sprague (Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication, 1864), University of Michigan Digital Library, 406.**