

## I. Review - Core Beliefs of a Reformed Christian Worldview

### A. Creation - Four Foundational Relationships

1. The Triune God created man for relationship with him
2. God created man in His image. Man reflects the Image of God by doing the things God did in Creation – making, filling, ordering, etc.
3. God created man to work with others
4. God created man to relate to have dominion over the creation (stewardship)

### B. Fall

1. Man's relationship with God is broken
2. Man's understanding of himself is broken
3. Man's relationship with others is broken
4. Man's relationship to the created order is broken

### C. Restoration

1. Man's relationship with God can be restored
  - a) *Sinners are restored God by Redemption*
  - b) *Redemption is Applied by Repentance and Faith*
  - c) *Restored to undertake Persevering Works*
  - d) *Complete Restoration is future*
  - e) *Countfeit faith is present in the Church*
2. The image of God can be restored
3. Man's relationship with others can be restored
4. Man's stewardship in the creation can be restored

## II. Assurance of salvation

### A. Who should have assurance of salvation?

1. Westminster Confession of Faith - "such as truly believe in the Lord Jesus, and love Him in sincerity, endeavouring to walk in all good conscience before Him, may, in this life, be certainly assured that they are in the state of grace"
2. 2 Pet. 1:3–11

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3. **Conclusions- Who should have assurance of salvation?**

a) *Those with Inward Tokens*

(1) Those who truly \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Those who \_\_\_\_\_ Christ

b) *Those with Outward Fruit*

(1) Those who \_\_\_\_\_ faith with good works

(2) Those who are being \_\_\_\_\_ to the image of God; i.e. "partakers of the divine nature"

B. **Who should not have assurance of salvation?**

1. **Westminster Confession of Faith** - " \_\_\_\_\_ and other unregenerate men may vainly deceive themselves with \_\_\_\_\_ hopes and \_\_\_\_\_ presumptions of being in the favor of God, and estate of salvation (which hope of theirs shall perish"

2. **John Calvin** - "The same Spirit teaches through James that the faith both of Abraham and of ourselves consists in \_\_\_\_\_, not only in faith... At that time there were many -- and this tends to be a perpetual evil in the church -- who openly disclosed their \_\_\_\_\_ by neglecting and overlooking all the proper works of believers, yet did not cease to boast of the false name of faith."

C. **John Calvin's Summary of the Reformed Doctrine of Assurance of Salvation (1 Corinthians 10:12)** "there are two kinds of \_\_\_\_\_:"

1. "The *one* is that which rests on the promises of God, because a pious conscience feels assured that God will never be wanting to it; and, relying on this unconquerable \_\_\_\_\_, triumphs boldly and intrepidly over Satan and sin, and yet, nevertheless, keeping in mind its own infirmity, casts itself upon God, and with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ commits itself to him. This kind of assurance is sacred, and is inseparable from faith."

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2. "The *other* arises from negligence, when men, \_\_\_\_\_ with the gifts that they have, give themselves no concern, as if they were beyond the reach of danger, but rest satisfied with their condition. Hence it is that they are exposed to all the assaults of Satan. This is the kind of assurance that Paul would have the Corinthians to abandon, because he saw that they were satisfied with themselves under the influence of a \_\_\_\_\_."

### III. Restoring the Image of God through Christlikeness

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ is the Image of God - 2 Corinthians 4:4
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ to be like Christ - Romans 8:29-30
- C. Christlikeness is part of God's \_\_\_\_\_ - Eph 4:20-24
- D. Christlikeness is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the image of God in us - Colossians 3:10

### IV. Restoring the Image of God through the Imitation of Christ

- A. Imitate Christ's Humility - Philippians 2:1-8
  - 1. What Jesus Did
    - a) *Jesus did not cling to his \_\_\_\_\_ with God*
    - b) *He \_\_\_\_\_ Himself by becoming a servant*
  - 2. What we are to do
    - a) *We are to consider others as more significant than ourselves - do not cling to our \_\_\_\_\_ with others*
    - b) *Look not only to our own interests but to the interests of others – \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves, even to the point of death*
- B. Imitate Christ's Servant-hood (John 13:13-17, Mt 20:25-28)
  - 1. The Master of the universe came to serve as the \_\_\_\_\_ and gave his life for me.
  - 2. My calling in Christ is to \_\_\_\_\_ others and give my life for them.

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**C. Imitate Christ's Suffering - 1 Peter 3:18, 4:1-2**

1. Christ suffered for the benefit of the \_\_\_\_\_
2. Suffering for obedience is intended to \_\_\_\_\_ us to the will of God

**D. Imitate Christ's Charity Toward Others - Colossians 3:10-14**

1. Consider all the \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus has shown toward you – such as forgiveness
2. You must show others the same \_\_\_\_\_

**E. Imitate Christ's Love for Others**

1. For fellow Believers (John 15:12-13, 1 John 3:16-18)
  - a) *Jesus has loved us so much that he \_\_\_\_\_ for us*
  - b) *We should be willing to give up \_\_\_\_\_ for a brother*
2. For One's Enemies (Romans 5:10, Romans 12:19-20)
  - a) *While were God's \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus died for us*
  - b) *We are to supply the \_\_\_\_\_ of our enemies*
  - c) *Loving our enemies heaps burning coals of \_\_\_\_\_ on his head so that he might repent*

**V. For Further Study**

- A. John MacArthur, Kingdom Living Here and Now
- B. John RW Stott, Basic Christianity
- C. Timothy Lane and Paul David Tripp, How People Change
- D. Paul David Tripp, Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands