


Topics

- Introduction to Church History 1600-1800
- The British Church: The Anglicans
- Grace Abounding: The Puritans
- For Christ's Crown & Covenant: The Scottish Presbyterians
-  • God's Free Mercy: The Church in the Netherlands
- The Westminster Assembly
- Calvinism in the New World
- Protestant Orthodoxy
- The Path of Life: Brother Lawrence and Blaise Pascal
- The Great Divide: Enlightenment and Romanticism
- A Warmth From the Fire of God in the Heart of Germany: Pietism and Bach
- The Inextinguishable Blaze: The Evangelical Revival in Great Britain
- The Great Awakening in America
- From the Awakening to the Revolution: Davies to Witherspoon
- Summary

James 3:1 - Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. (ESV)

Outline

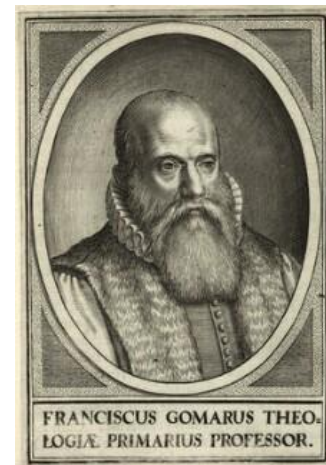
- The Synod of Dort (1618 - 1619)
- The Second (newer, more precise) Dutch Reformation
- Rembrandt van Rijn

The Synod of Dort – Jacob Arminius

- Jacob Arminius – studied Calvinism under Theodore Beza in Geneva
 - Assigned to write a rebuttal against anti-Calvinist writings on pre-destination from Dirck Coornhert
 - In the process he shifts beliefs (later to be called Arminianism) to align with Coornhert's view
 - As professor of Theology at Leiden clashes with strict Calvinist professor Franciscus Gomarus
 - Arminius dies in 1609 but the dispute does not die with him
 - Arminius' followers publish the Remonstrance in 1610



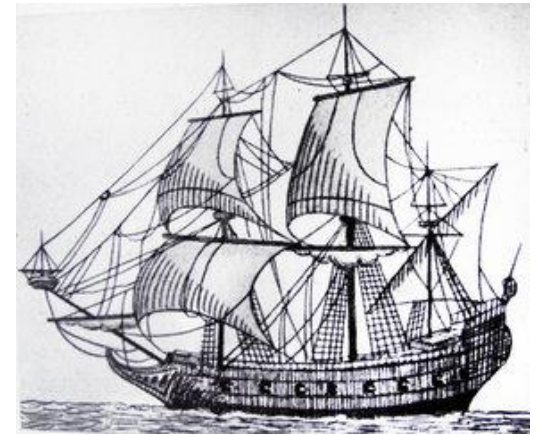
Jacob Arminius
1560-1609



Franciscus Gomarus
1563-1641

The Synod of Dort – the Politics

- The Netherlands still struggling for independence from Catholic, Hapsburg Spain
 - War off and on for decades and it will continue into the 30 Years War 1618 – 1648
- Politics and Economics wields influence on which side of the Arminius-Gomarus debate some stand
 - Merchants, desiring more trade with Spain, tend to back the Arminians (Remonstrants)
 - Others, especially clergy desiring doctrinal purity, tend to back the Gomarists
- Resolving this issue is critical to maintaining unity in the Netherlands



The Synod of Dort – the Primary Issue

Remonstrants	Gomarists
<p>Pre-destination – Based on God’s foreknowledge of those who would later have faith in Christ</p> <p>The great decree was that Christ would be the mediator and redeemer of humankind</p>	<p>Faith itself is the result of pre-destination. God decreed who would have faith and who would not.</p>
<p>Humans can do nothing good on their own account and the Grace of God is necessary in order to do good</p>	<p>Total Depravity – Human nature is so corrupted that the light of God within cannot be used successfully for conversion (nor in matters civil and natural)</p>
<p>God determined before the foundation of the world that those who believed in Christ would be saved. This is all that is needed for salvation, it is not necessary or useful to dig deeper.</p>	<p>Unconditional Election – Election based on the will of God, not on foreknowledge nor one’s response</p>
<p>Jesus died for all human beings but only believers benefit</p>	<p>Limited Atonement – Christ died only for those pre-destined to salvation</p>
<p>Grace is not irresistible, many have resisted the Holy Spirit</p>	<p>Irresistible Grace – God’s saving grace is applied to those He has chosen and cannot be resisted</p>
<p>Biblical teaching on losing salvation is unclear and further scriptural proof is needed to say one way or the other</p>	<p>Perseverance of the saints – The elect will persevere in grace and not fall from it</p>

The Synod of Dort (1618-1619)

- Synod called by Prince Maurice of Orange, held in Dordrecht
 - A Reformed gathering of 84 members from the Netherlands, England, Scotland, the Palatinate, and Switzerland
 - All Calvinists – Arminians were there as defendants only and left after several weeks
- A unanimous 5-point statement in opposition to the Remonstrance is approved
- Other accomplishments at Dort
 - Approved a new Dutch translation of the Bible
 - Organized Catechetical instruction
 - Established plan for preparation of ministers
 - Established the definitive text of the Belgic (or Dutch) Confession
 - Set guidelines for Sunday observance
 - Established a new church order rejecting Erastianism



Prince Maurice of Orange
1567-1625

“The doctrine of election leads to humility, it leads to worship, and it leads to godly living”
– Canon from the Synod of Dort

The Second Dutch Reformation

- Why is a Second Reformation required?
 - Preferred status of the Reformed Church → Rapid Growth → Nominalism
 - Continued struggle against state interference (Erastianism)
- Characteristics
 - Cooperation between Scottish Presbyterians, English Puritans, Dutch Reformed
 - Emphasis on Systematic Theology

William Ames (1605-1653)

- Transplanted Englishman
- Professor
- Delegate at the Synod of Dort
- *The Marrow of Theology*
 - Combination of scientific theology and practical theology
 - First textbook at New College (later named Harvard) in New England

Gisbertus Voetius (1589-1676)

- Influenced by Ames
- Minister and Professor
- Delegate at the Synod of Dort
- Scholastic Theologian
- Man of Piety – leader in the Precisionist movement
- A leader in missions

“Like Puritanism in England, the Second Reformation in the Netherlands was a movement that God owned and blessed. There was a revival in the churches.”

– Dr. David Calhoun

Rembrandt van Rijn (1606 – 1669)

- Born in Leiden, Netherlands into a Reformed family
- Taught Bible by his mother
- Disciplined by the Reformed Church
 - Not allowed to have a state church marriage (details unclear)
 - Breaks connection with the Reformed church
- Some believe he went to the Mennonite church
- Common subjects of Rembrandt's Works
 - His mother – often with a bible
 - Jewish people
 - Vagabonds, suffering people
 - Bible scenes (850 paintings and drawings)

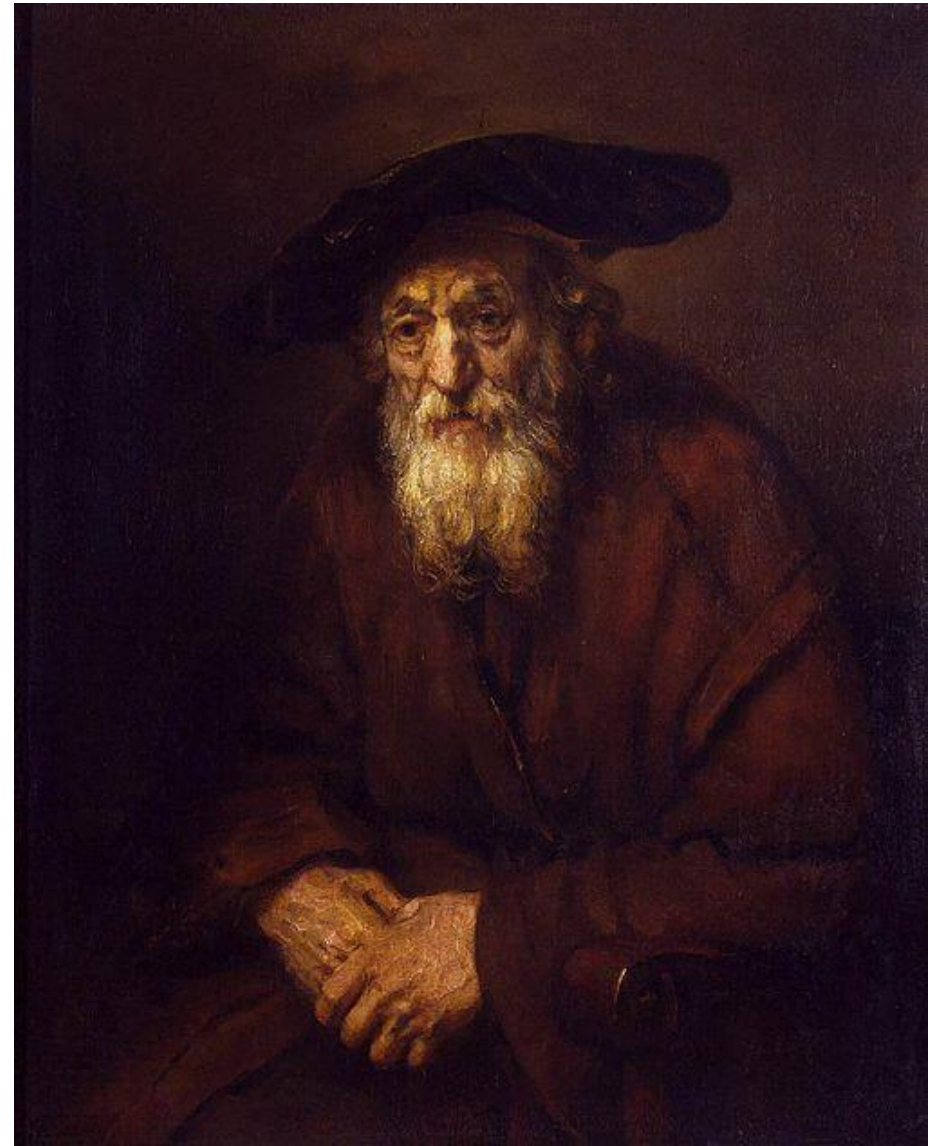


“As Bach would later come to dominate Protestant church music, so Rembrandt is the greatest Protestant artist.” – Dr. David Calhoun

Rembrandt van Rijn

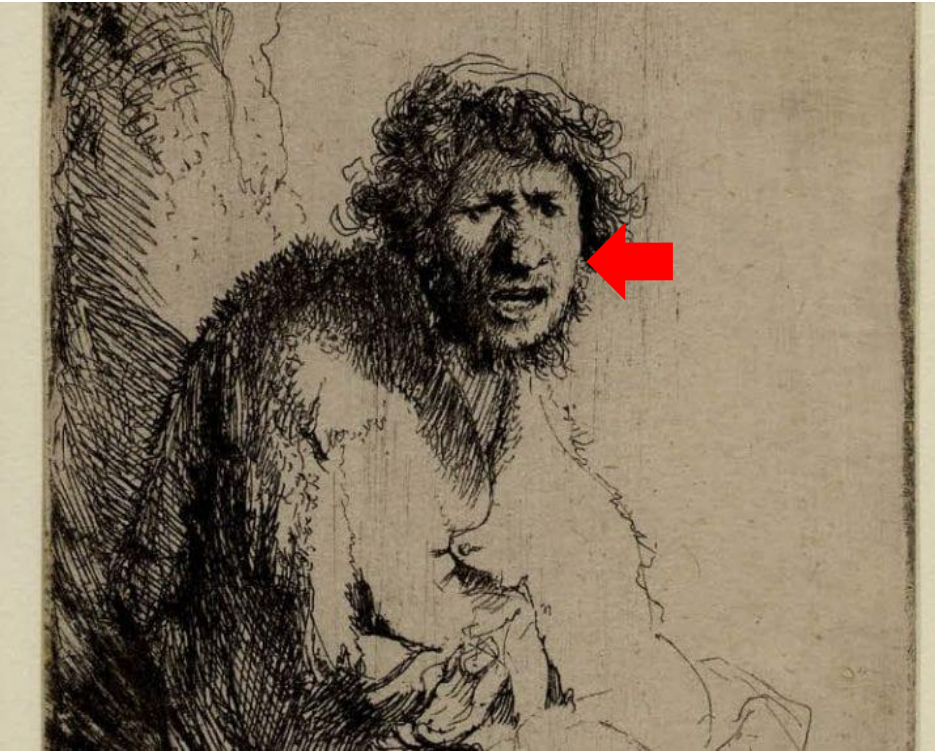


Mother Reads the Bible



Portrait of an Old Jew

Rembrandt van Rijn



Beggar Seated on a Bank



Raising of the Cross