



***Session One: The Faith That Saves
The Origin of the Christian Life***

INTRODUCTION:

A. Faith is a fascinating subject:

B. Faith is a significant subject:

1. THE DISTINGUISHING OF FAITH:

A. General faith:

(i) Certainty may be spontaneous:

(ii) Certainty may be based on experience:

(iii) Certainty may be mistaken:

B. Nominal, Historical or Intellectual faith:

C. Saving faith:

2. THE NECESSITY OF FAITH:

A. We are unable:

B. We are unclean:

(i) We are cannot cleanse ourselves from sins already committed:

(ii) We cannot ensure no need of future cleansing:

(iii) We cannot cleanse those works right in principle but unclean in their motivation:

C. We are unsighted:

3. THE DYNAMICS OF FAITH:

A. Regeneration:

(i) Regeneration in prophecy:



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(ii) *Regeneration in terminology:*

(iii) *Regeneration in imagery:*

B. Faith:

(i) *Knowledge (notitia):*

(ii) *Conviction (assensus):*

(iii) *Trust (fiducia):*

C. Repentance:

(i) *Repentance referenced:*

(ii) *Repentance ordered:*

(iii) *Repentance described:*

4. THE LEGITIMIZING OF FAITH:

A. The sufficiency of God's Son:

B. The universality of God's invitation:

C. The demands of God's Command:

(i) *A command born of love:*

(ii) *A command born of law:*

D. The promises of God's grace:

5. THE BLESSINGS OF FAITH:

A. Peace with God:

B. Access to God:

C. Cleansing from God:



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D. Transformation by God:

E. Hope in God:

CONCLUSION:

A. Are you converted?

B. Are you converting?

FURTHER READING: *Westminster Confession of Faith*

Chapter 6 Of the Fall of Man, of Sin, and the Punishment Thereof.

Chapter 10 Of Effectual Calling (regeneration is included in the chapter).

Chapter 14 Of Saving Faith

Chapter 15 Of Repentance Unto Life



***Session Two: The Faith that Obeys
The Living of the Christian Life***

INTRODUCTION:

CONTEXT:

A. The prayers of the converted:

(i) We keep on believing:

(ii) We keep on repenting:

B. The priority of the converted:

(i) Faith is accompanied by obedience:

(ii) Faith is accompanied by works:

C. The pursuit of the converted:

D. The precautioning of the converted:

(i) Jesus:

(ii) John:

(iii) Paul:

1. THE HISTORY OF THE LAW:

A. The law is operative within God:

(i) God's law is innate:

(ii) God's law is eternal:

(iii) God's law is an external summary of his will:

B. The law is operative within man:

(i) God's law is revealed to us:

(ii) God's law is inscribed on us:

(iii) God's law is taught to us:



C. The law is operative within history:

(i) The law for the race (the moral law):

(ii) The law for the times (the ceremonial law):

(iii) The law for the nation (the judicial law):

2. THE USE OF THE LAW:

A. The law is a mirror of God's righteousness:

B. The law defines sin:

C. The law provokes sin:

D. The law pronounces our condemnation:

E. The law explains the cross:

F. The law structures our freedom:

G. The law pronounces God's blessings:

3. THE FULFILLMENT OF THE LAW: We avoid both legalism and license by—

A. The goodness of the Father:

B. The example of Christ:

C. The ministry of the Spirit:

4. THE PRACTICALITIES OF THE LAW: We maintain the balance of law and grace in Christian living by—

A. Preaching to ourselves the gospel:



B. Preaching to ourselves and to others liberty of conscience:

(i) Spiritual:

(ii) Practical:

C. Preaching to ourselves the care of community:

(i) Safeguarding one another from license:

(ii) Safeguarding one another from legalism:

(iii) Safeguarding one another from unbelief:

CONCLUSION:

FURTHER READING: *Westminster Confession of Faith*

Chapter 11 Of Justification

Chapter 12 Of Adoption

Chapter 13 Of Sanctification

Chapter 16 Of Good Works

Chapter 19 Of the Law of God

Chapter 20 Of Christian Liberty and Liberty of Conscience.



***Session Three: The Faith that Perseveres
The Durability of the Christian Life***

INTRODUCTION:

1. THE BASIS OF OUR PERSEVERANCE:

A. The actions of God the Father:

- (i) The Father elected his sons:*
- (ii) The Father commissioned his Son:*
- (iii) The Father called his sons:*
- (iv) The Father promises his sons' preservation:*
- (v) The Father is ever faithful to his sons:*

B. The actions of God the Son:

- (i) Christ shed his blood for us once-for-all:*
- (ii) Christ continues to pray for us:*
- (iii) Christ has made promises to us:*

C. The actions of God the Spirit:

- (i) The Spirit conceives us through the imperishable Word:*
- (ii) The Spirit unites us to Christ:*
- (iii) The Spirit seals us:*
- (iv) The Spirit prays for us:*
- (v) The Spirit strengthens us:*

2. THE URGING OF OUR PERSEVERANCE:

A. The realities:

- (i) Not every professing Christian lasts the course:*



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(ii) Not every professing Christian belongs to Christ:

B. The flesh:

C. The professing church:

D. The world:

E. The devil:

F. The purposes of God:

3. THE MEANS OF OUR PERSEVERANCE:

A. Faith:

B. The Word:

(i) The written Word:

(ii) The living Word:

(iii) The tangible Word:

C. The communion of saints:



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4. THE GOAL OF PERSEVERANCE: *We persevere for—*

A. The glory of God:

B. The witness of the church:

C. The winning of the lost:

D. The welfare of our souls:

E. The reward of heaven:

CONCLUSION:

FURTHER READING: *Westminster Confession of Faith*

Chapter 2 Of God, and of the Holy Trinity

Chapter 3 Of God's Eternal Decree

Chapter 7 Of God's Covenant with Man

Chapter 8 Of Christ the Mediator

Chapter 17 Of the Perseverance of the Saints



***Session Four: The Faith that Hopes
The Consummation of the Christian Life***

INTRODUCTION:

A. Christ promises his return:

B. Christ promises his presence:

CONTEXT:

A. The matter of faithfulness:

(i) God is faithful in his character:

(ii) God is faithful in his covenant:

(iii) God is faithful in his promises:

B. The matter of the last days:

(i) General eschatology:

(ii) Specific eschatology:

1. WHAT WE ARE TO EXPECT:

A. The binding of Satan:

B. The gospel going to all people groups:

(i) The OT foresaw global mission:

(ii) Jesus promised global mission:

(iii) History has witnessed global mission:

C. The signs of the times:

(i) False Christs and false apostles:

(ii) Trouble:

(iii) Persecution:

(iv) The loss of first love:



D. The fulfilment of the Gentiles and the restoration of the Jews:

E. The Loosing of Satan:

(i) To deceive the nations:

(ii) To reveal the Antichrist:

F. The return of Christ:

(i) Jesus wins!

(ii) We win!

2. WHAT WE ARE TO DO:

A. We are to watch:

B. We are to endure:

C. We are to work:

D. We are to be pure:

E. We are to warn:

F. We are to witness:

G. We are to put revilers to shame:

H. We are to love God's people:

(i) Across the church militant:

(ii) Across eternity:

I. We are to counter Satan:



J. We are to pursue God's glory:

3. WHAT WE ARE TO ANTICIPATE:

A. The hope of a blessing:

B. The hope of righteousness:

C. The hope of reward:

(i) Listen to Jesus:

(ii) Listen to Paul:

D. The hope of a future:

CONCLUSION:

A. To those walking with the Lord:

B. To those wandering from the Lord:

C. To any yet to come to the Lord:

FURTHER READING: Westminster Confession of Faith

Chapter 32 Of the State of Men after Death, and of the Resurrection of the Dead

Chapter 33 Of the Last Judgment