

Calvinism and Arminianism, Lesson 2: History

Opening Exercise: Answer the following questions...

1. Arminians are from the country of Armenia? True or False
2. Jacob (or James) Arminius was Reformed? True or False
3. What are the Canons of Dordt?

4. Why is it so important to remember the historical situation in which the Synod of Dordt met and the Canons of Dordt were written?¹

¹ Some of these questions are taken or adapted from: Cornelis P. Venema, *But for the Grace of God: An Exposition on the Canons of Dort*, 2d ed (Grandville, MI: Reformed Fellowship Inc., 2011).

Notes

Homework

1. Sometimes the teaching of the Canons of Dordt is described as the “five points of Calvinism.” Are these five points an adequate summary of the Canons?
2. What does the letters in the acronym TULIP stand for?
3. Does Calvinism remove incentive for evangelism or preaching the gospel? Why or why not?
4. How does the teachings of the Canons of Dordt comfort believers?²

² Some of these questions are taken or adapted from: Cornelis P. Venema, *But for the Grace of God: An Exposition on the Canons of Dort*, 2d ed (Grandville, MI: Reformed Fellowship Inc., 2011).

CALVINISM AND ARMINIANISM, LESSON 2: HISTORY

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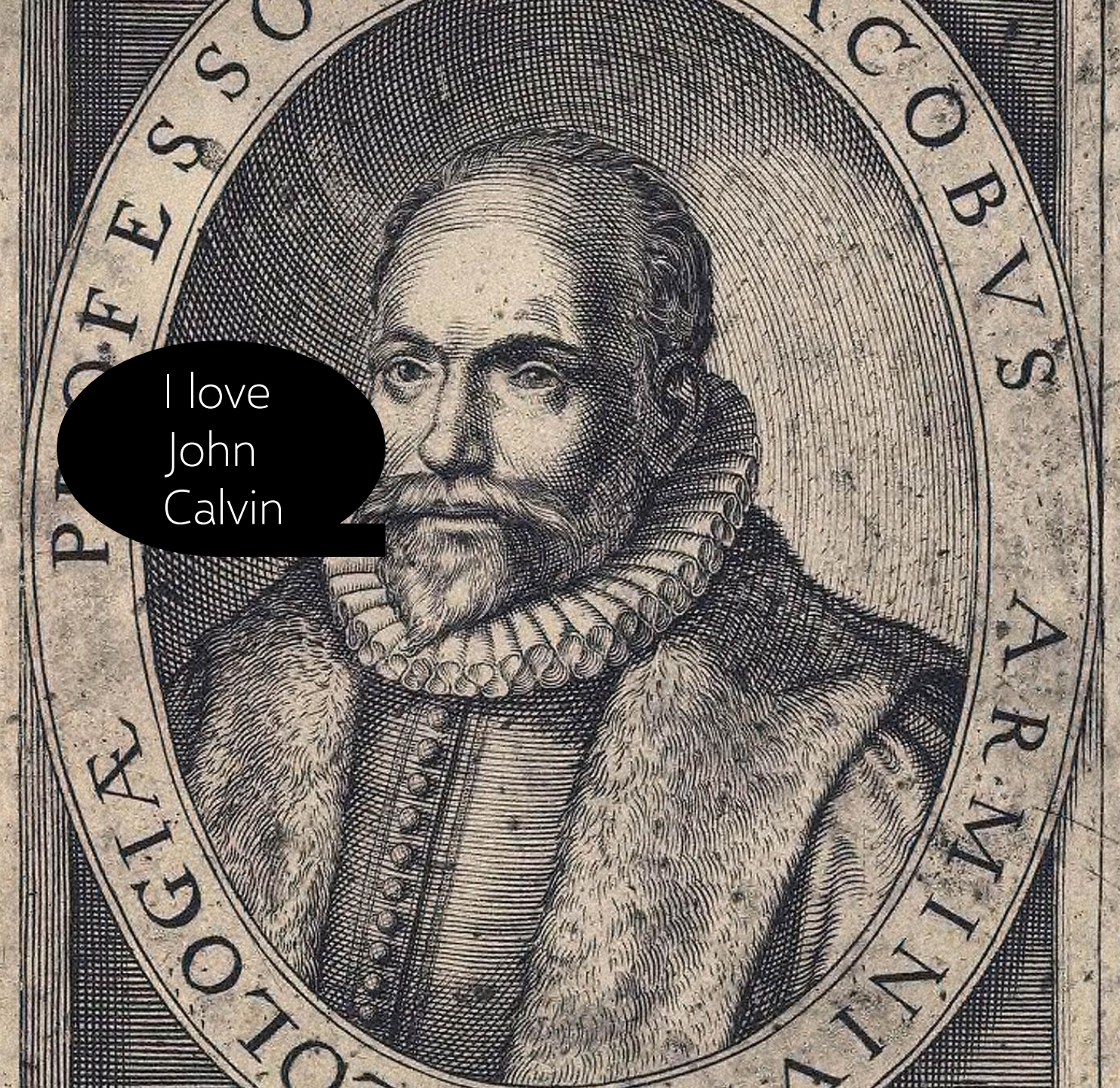


AUGUSTINE (354-
430)



JACOBUS (JACOB
OR JAMES
ARMINIUS) (1559-
1609)

I love
John
Calvin

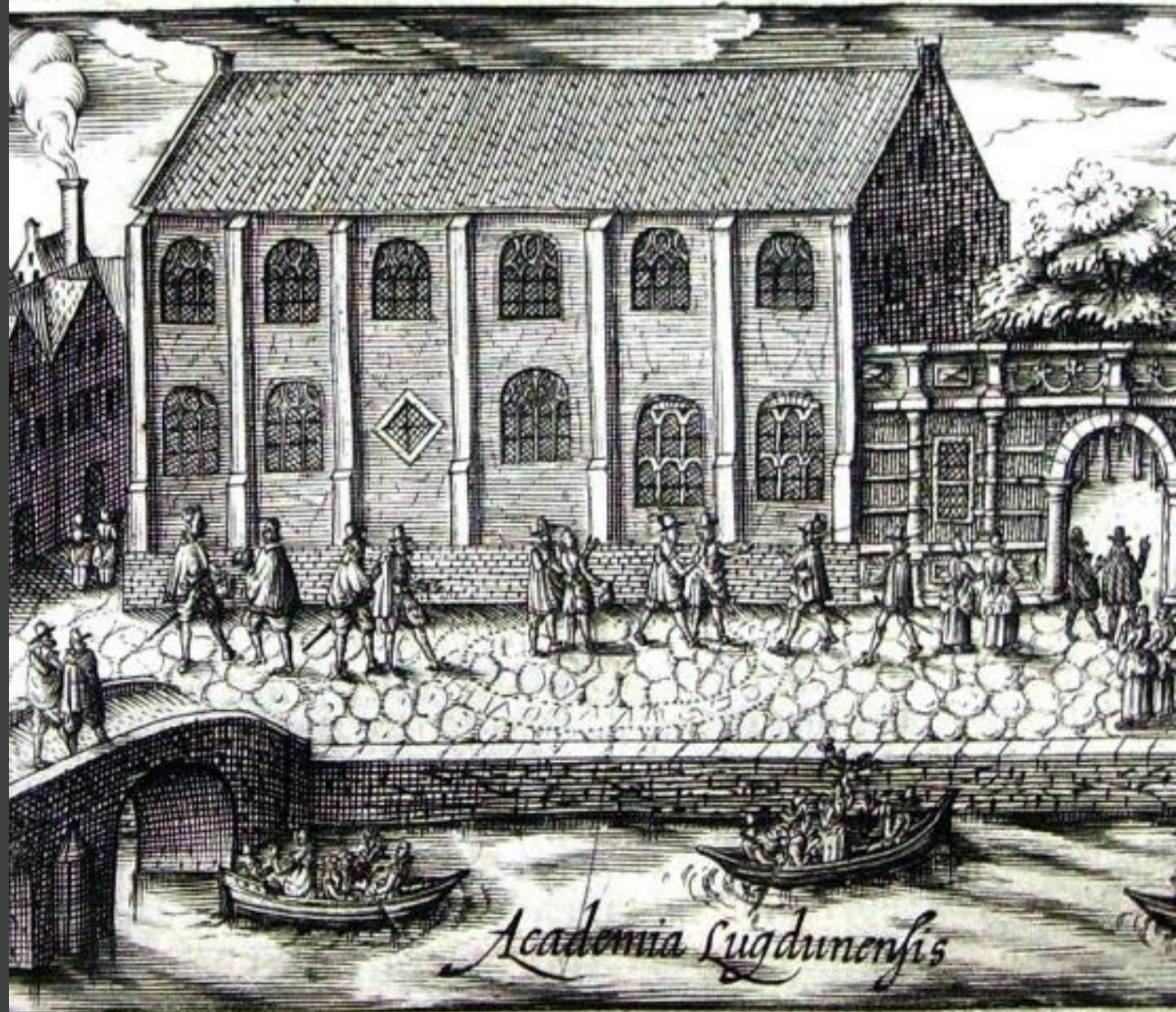


ORDER OF DECREES IN THE MIND OF GOD (LOGICAL NOT CHRONOLOGICAL)

- Decree to create the world.
- Decree to permit the fall into sin.
- Decree to elect certain people.
- Decree to send Christ as a payment for sin.



1603-1609 –
PROFESSOR OF
THEOLOGY, LEIDEN
UNIVERSITY



1610
REMONSTRANCE
FIVE ARTICLES



1611 HAGUE
CONFERENCE
(6 REMONSTRANTS
VERSUS
6 CONTRA-
REMONSTRANTS)



SYNOD OF DORDT
(NOVEMBER 13,
1618-MAY 29,
1619)



Five Heads/Sections:

I: Divine Election and
Reprobation

II: Christs Death and
Human Redemption
through it

III/IV: Human Corruption,
Conversion to God, and the
Way it Occurs

V: The Perseverance of the
Saints

I V D I C I V M
S Y N O D I
N A T I O N A L I S,
R E F O R M A T A R V M
E C C L E S I A R V M B E L G I C A R V M,
habitæ
D O R D R E C H T I
Anno 1618. & 1619.

*Cui etiam interfuerunt plurimi insignes Theologi
Reformatarum Ecclesiarum Magnæ Britanniaë,
Palatinatus Electoralis, Hassiæ, Helvetiæ, Cor-
respondentiæ Vvedderaviæ, Genevensis, Bre-
mensis, & Emdanæ,*

D E
Q U I N Q U E D O C T R I N A E
Capitibus in Ecclesiis Belgicis Controversis.

Promulgatum VI. May, cId. Idc. xix.

Cum Privilegio.



Pastoral Elements:

- Recognizes the need to repent and believe (I.2, 3; III/IV.12, 13)
- Assurance of election/salvation (I.12, 13)
- Sensitive to varying levels of assurance (I.12; V.9)
- Recognizes doubts (V.11)
- Challenges false security (I.13; III/IV.15)
- Addresses fear of reprobation (I.16)
- Encourages humility (I.13)
- Challenges laxity, indifference (V.13)
- Addresses grievous sins of believers (V.4)
- Incentive to godliness (V.12)
- Encourages Bible reading/mediation (V.14)
- Offers comfort (I.14; V.15)
- Hope for family members who have given up on the faith (V.6)



