

What is Reformed Theology?

I. HISTORICAL

- ▶ Reformed Theology refers to the theological conclusions that flowed out of the Protestant Reformation.
- ▶ It represents a rejection of Roman Catholic theology in key areas:
 - The authority of the Pope
 - The nature of the Sacraments
 - The regulative principle of Worship
 - The doctrine of Salvation

II. THE FIVE POINTS OF CALVINISM (TULIP)

- ▶ **Total Depravity**
- ▶ **Unconditional Election**
- ▶ **Limited Atonement**
- ▶ **Irresistible Grace**
- ▶ **Perseverance of the Saints**

III. THEOLOGICAL

A. The Five Solas of the Reformation

- ***Sola Scriptura*** — Scripture alone
- ***Sola Fide*** — Faith alone
- ***Sola Gratia*** — Grace alone
- ***Solus Christus*** — Christ alone
- ***Soli Deo Gloria*** — God's glory alone

B. Covenant Theology

- ▶ God works out his saving purposes by means of successive covenants.
- ▶ The covenantal structure of the Bible shows the unity of Old and New Testaments and God's one plan of salvation.
 - Covenant of Works
 - Covenant of Grace

IV. CONFSSIONAL

- ▶ All Reformed traditions have confessional statements that express their theological convictions.

Westminster Standards (1646)

- Westminster Confession of Faith
- Larger and Shorter Catechisms

Three Forms of Unity

- Belgic Confession
 - Heidelberg Catechism
 - Canons of Dort
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