



REJECTION OF ERRORS TO THE DOCTRINE

Having studied the Biblical doctrine of the perseverance of the saints, we will now review the errors rejected by the Synod of 1619 and compare them to the errors taught in churches today.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <p>1. The perseverance of the true believers is not a fruit of election or a gift of God obtained by the death of Christ, but a condition of the new covenant, which man before his so-called decisive election and justification must fulfill through his free will.</p>              | <p>The Bible testifies that perseverance follows from election and is given to the elect by virtue of the death, resurrection, and intercession of Christ: <i>The elect obtained it, but the rest were hardened (Ro. 11:7)</i></p>  | <p>Ro. 8:32-35;<br/>Ro. 11:5-8</p>                  |
| <p>2. God does provide the believer with sufficient strength to persevere, and is ready to preserve this in him <i>if he will do his duty</i>. But even with all these things in place..., it still always depends on the decision of man's will whether he will persevere or not.</p> | <p>While it wants to make men free, it makes them robbers of God's honor. It conflicts with the consistent teaching of the gospel, which takes from man all cause for boasting, and ascribes all the praise for this benefit to the grace of God alone.</p>   | <p>I Cor. 1:8<br/>Is.48:11</p>                      |
| <p>3. True regenerate believers not only can fall completely and definitely from justifying faith and also from grace and salvation, but indeed they often do fall from them and are lost forever.</p>   | <p>This opinion nullifies the grace of justification and regeneration and the continuous preservation by Christ, clearly contrary to Scripture: <i>"...I give them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand."</i></p>   | <p>Ro. 5:8-9;<br/>I John 3:9;<br/>John 10:28-29</p> |
| <p>4. True regenerate believers can commit the sin that leads to death or the sin against the Holy Spirit.</p>   | <p>The apostle John, after speaking of those who commit the sin of the Holy Spirit and not to pray for them, immediately adds <i>"We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not...and that wicked one toucheth him not."</i></p>  | <p>I John 5:16-18</p>                               |
| <p>5. Without a special revelation we can have no certainty of future perseverance in this life.</p>   | <p>By this doctrine the sure comfort of true believers in this life is taken away, and the doubting of the followers of the pope is again introduced in the church. Scripture, however, deduces this assurance, through the promises of God.</p>  | <p>Ro. 8:39;<br/>I Jn. 3:24</p>                     |
| <p>6. By its very nature the doctrine of the certainty of perseverance and salvation <i>causes false security and is harmful</i> to godliness, good morals, prayers, and other holy exercises. On the contrary, it is praiseworthy to doubt.</p>                                       | <p>This error ignores the effective power of God's grace and the working of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us. It contradicts the words of the apostle John and the example of the saints...who, although they were certain of their perseverance and salvation, continued in prayer and other exercises of godliness.</p> | <p>I Jn. 3:2-3;</p>                                 |
| <p>7. The faith of those who believe for a time does not differ from justifying and saving faith except with respect to its duration.</p>  | <p>Christ clearly teaches in the Parable of the Soil, a three fold difference between those who believe only for a time and true believers: soil, root and fruit.</p>   | <p>Mt. 13:20-23; Luke 8:13-15;</p>                  |
| <p>8. It is not absurd that one, having lost his first regeneration, is again and even often born anew.</p>  | <p>This doctrine denies that the seed of God, by which we are born again, is imperishable, contrary to: <i>"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible..."</i></p>   | <p>I Pet. 1:23-25</p>                               |
| <p>9. Christ did not pray anywhere that believers should unfailingly continue in faith.</p>  | <p>This contradicts the Scripture which states that Christ not only prayed for the apostles, but for all those given to Him.</p>  | <p>Lk. 22:31-32;<br/>Jn. 17:9-20</p>                |



"But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it and bring forth fruit with patience."  
- Luke 8:15

YOU CANNOT HOLD TO SOME OF THE DOCTRINES OF THE BIBLE WITHOUT HOLDING TO ALL OF THEM. FOR IF THROUGH A MAN'S EFFORTS HE COULD ACQUIRE SALVATION, THEN BY HIS ACTIONS HE COULD LOSE IT. THUS WE HAVE CREATED A "WORKS" GOSPEL AND DO NOT ACCEPT GOD'S GOSPEL OF GRACE.



"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."  
-Eph. 2:8-9