




REJECTION OF ERRORS TO THE DOCTRINE

Having studied the Biblical doctrine of the corruption of man and his conversion to God, we will now review the errors rejected by the Synod of 1619 and compare them to the errors taught today in churches claiming to teach Biblical truth.



STATEMENT OF ERROR	REFUTATION	TEXT	
1. Properly speaking, it cannot be said that original sin as such is sufficient to condemn the whole human race or to deserve temporal and eternal punishment.	This contradicts the words of the apostle Paul, " <i>Sin came into the world through one man and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all men sinned...the judgment following trespass brought condemnation...and the wages of sin is death.</i> "	Ro.5:12,16 Ro. 6:23; Matt. 25:45-46; 2 Peter 2: 13-22	"THE SACRIFICES OF GOD ARE A BROKEN SPIRIT, A BROKEN AND A CONTRITE HEART. O GOD, THOU WILT NOT DESPISE." -PS 51:17
2. Spiritual gifts or good virtues, such as goodness, holiness, righteousness, cannot have belonged to the will of man when he was first created, and therefore cannot have been separated from his will when he fell.	This error is contrary to the Biblical description of the image of God in which man was created before the fall and the image of God put on man after regeneration.	Gen. 1:26-27; Eph. 4:22-24	"THE WAY TO SEE "IRRESISTIBLE GRACE" IN ITS TRUE LIGHT IS TO CONSIDER THE CREATION OF THE UNIVERSE. WHEN GOD SAID, "LET THERE BE
3. In spiritual death the spiritual gifts are not separate from the will of man, since <u>the will as such has never been corrupted but hampered</u> by the darkness of the mind and the unruliness of the passions. <u>If these hindrances have been removed</u> , the will can exert its full innate power. <u>The will is of itself able to will and to choose, or else not to will and not to choose</u> , all manner of good which may be presented to it.	This is an innovation and an error, and tends to extol the powers of the free will, contrary to the words of the prophet Jeremiah, " <i>The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?</i> " and the words of Paul, " <i>Among all these (the sons of disobedience) we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of body and mind.</i> "	Jer. 17:9; Eph. 2:3	LIGHT," LIGHT IRRESISTIBLY CAME INTO BEING."
4. The unregenerate man is not really or spiritually dead in sins, or deprived of all powers unto spiritual good. <u>He can yet hunger and thirst after righteousness and life, and offer the sacrifice of a contrite and broken spirit</u> which is pleasing to God.	These things are in conflict with Scripture: " <i>You hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins</i> " and " <i>...every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.</i> " Only the regenerate, those who are called blessed, hunger and thirst after deliverance from misery and after life and offer to God the sacrifice of a broken spirit.	Eph. 2:1,5; Gen 6:5; 8:21; Matt. 5:6; Ps. 51:19	PSALTER HYMNAL #387
5. <u>The corrupt and natural man can so well use the common grace, or the gifts still left him after the fall</u> , that he can gradually gain by their good use a greater grace, evangelical or saving, and salvation itself. In this way God on His part shows Himself <u>ready to reveal Christ to all men</u> , since He administers to all sufficiently and efficaciously the means necessary for the knowledge of Christ, for faith and repentance.	Scripture specifically states that God does not reveal Himself to all nations. " <i>He showeth His word to Jacob...He hath not dealt so with any nation...</i> " And Paul and his companions were " <i>forbidden by the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia. After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithnia: but the Spirit suffered them not.</i> "	Ps. 147:19-20; Acts 14:16; Acts 16:6-7;	 I sought the Lord and afterward I knew He moved my soul to seek Him, seeking me; It was not I that found O Savior true; No, I was found, was found of Thee. It was not I that found O Savior true: No, I was found, was found of Thee.



DISCUSS: What do these statements have in common concerning the extent of man's sin nature? What is the ultimate goal in their argument of holding on to this belief?