

Study Questions for Welcome to a REFORMED CHURCH by Daniel R. Hyde *by Nollie Malabuyo May 2012*

Answer each question briefly in a few sentences.

Introduction:

How are Reformed churches *Christian, Protestant and Reformed*?

Chapter 1: ROOTS: Our History (1-25)

1. Why are the creeds – Apostles', Nicene, Athanasian & Chalcedonian – called *ecumenical*?

2. Were these creeds written by the Roman Catholic Church? Why or why not?

3. What four *solas* did the 16th century Protestant Reformers affirm against the Roman church? What do these *solas* mean?

4. Why were the Reformers called *evangelicals*?

5. What are the two great collections of confessions that were written by the Reformers? Why is one collection called the *Three Forms of Unity*?

6. Summarize in one sentence each the Heidelberg Catechism, Belgic Confession, and the Canons of Dort.

Chapter 2: CONFESSIONS: Doctrinal Foundations (27-34)

1. What is the relationship between the creeds and confessions and the Bible?

2. How are creeds and confessions Biblical?

3. How are creeds and confessions beneficial?

Chapter 3: SCRIPTURE: The Final Authority (35-49)

1. The Roman Catholic Church also believes in the authority of the Bible. What is the difference between their belief and the Reformers' doctrine of *sola Scriptura*?

2. In what two ways does God reveal himself to man?

3. Why did the Reformers reject the Apocrypha?

4. What are some of the characteristics of the Holy Scripture?

Chapter 4: COVENANT: God's Story (51-69)

1. Give a simple definition of a Biblical covenant and list some of its parts (52).

2. Why is Reformed theology called "covenantal"? What are the four major covenantal parts of the Bible?

3. What is the "covenant of creation"? What are its two signs and what do they signify?

4. Summarize the effects of Adam's sin.

5. Summarize the two covenants God made to redeem man from sin.

6. What does "consummation" mean? When and how will God accomplish this?

Chapter 5: JUSTIFICATION: Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Christ Alone (71-86)

1. What are the three reasons why obedience to the law cannot save anyone?

2. What are the doctrines of *grace alone*, *faith alone*, and *Christ alone*?

3. What are the two parts of Christ's obedience? Explain how Christ accomplished them.

Chapter 6: SANCTIFICATION: The Christian Life (87-102)

1. Explain the difference between *justification* and *sanctification*.

2. How is sanctification illustrated by death and resurrection?

3. Are Christians still bound to obey the moral law (Ten Commandments)? Memorize the main portions of the Ten Commandments.

4. What are the *three divisions* of the Law of Moses? What are the *three uses* of the law?

5. What are the three parts of the Lord's Prayer? Why is it important in Christian life? Memorize the Lord's Prayer.

Chapter 7: CHURCH: Distinguishing Marks

1. What are the *three marks* of a true church?

2. What are the *three officebearers* of the church?

3. What does a pastor have to preach? State the difference between *law* and *gospel*?

4. How is baptism "properly" administered? How about the Lord's Supper?

5. Why is *church discipline* important to the church and to the individual Christian? Is church discipline only for church officebearers?

Chapter 8: WORSHIP: Of God, by God, for God

1. What is the relationship between God's Word and worship?

2. Why is Cain's worship unacceptable to God? How about the worship by Nadab & Abihu?

3. How did Jesus define true worship? What did Paul say about true worship?

4. Why are rock bands, "relevant" sermons, dramas, and entertainment unacceptable to God?

Chapter 9: PREACHING & SACRAMENTS: Means of Grace

1. What is the meaning of the "*means of grace*" and what are they?

2. What is the gospel? Is the gospel only for unbelievers?

3. What are *sacraments*? What benefits do we received from each sacrament?

4. What is baptism? What are the basic differences between Baptist and Reformed views?

5. What is the Lord's Supper? Is it only a remembrance of Christ's death? How is Christ really present when it is administered? What benefits do we receive from it?
