

BEYOND SUNDAY

FAITH: FALLEN HUMANITY

JANUARY 6, 2019

RECAP

On Sunday we started a five-part series on the doctrines (teachings) of grace. These teachings came out of a meeting that took place 400 years ago, called the Synod of Dort. It was held by the Dutch Reformed Church in the city of Dordrecht, Netherlands in 1618-1619. Its purpose was to answer questions people had concerning God's grace toward humanity. The Synod published their response in a document called the Canons of Dort. The word canon (not to be confused with the weapon cannon) means rule, principle or standard. For a long time, the Canons of Dort were summarized by the acronym, TULIP (Total Depravity, Unconditional Election, Limited Atonement, Irresistible Grace, Perseverance of the Saints). Some people haven't found that summary very helpful. Jim Osterhouse developed a different acronym, FAITH (Fallen Humanity, Adopted by God, Intentional Atonement, Transformed by the Holy Spirit, Held by God).

ICYMI: [Watch Sermon Online](#)

READINGS

Your word is like a lamp that shows me the way. It is like a light that guides me. Psalm 119:105 NIV

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Ephesians 2:1-10	Genesis 3	Romans 12:12-21	Romans 3:9-20	John 3:1-8	Acts 16:11-15	John 9:35-41 ; Matthew 19:1-23

Questions to think about as you read:

1. Describe a serious fall you have taken. What is the difference between that fall and fall that is fatal?
2. Genesis 3 records the fall of Adam and Eve into sin, taking the entire human race down with them. This is referred to as "the fall." How serious was the fall? What effects of the fall do we see today?
3. What can a person do to overcome the effects of the fall?
4. How does this truth make you feel? Hopeless? Helpless? Angry? Bitter?
5. What problems does this truth create for you?
6. How does understanding the depth of the fall enhance your understanding of Jesus' death on the cross? Of salvation? Of grace?

For Families:

Read the story "The Terrible Lie" from the [Jesus Storybook Bible](#) by Sally Lloyd-Jones, on pages 28-36. A copy can be found in our church library.

RESOURCES

Read the [introduction and first main point](#) of doctrine as explained in the Canons of Dort.

Read the book [Faith Unfolded](#) by Jim Osterhouse or this [summary](#) of the book from the Banner.

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