

*THE CANONS OF
DORT*

TEACHER'S MANUAL

J. Parnell McCarter

FIRST EDITION

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The Puritans' Home School Curriculum

www.puritans.net

THE CANONS OF DORT COURSE INSTRUCTIONS

Purpose

This course provides a study of the Canons of Dort using Cornelis P. Venema's book *But for the Grace of God: An Exposition of the Canons of Dort*. The book is available from Reformed Fellowship, Inc. (see http://www.reformedfellowship.net/study_materials.htm)

Course Check-Off List

Students should record when they have completed the work associated with each chapter in the book *But for the Grace of God: An Exposition of the Canons of Dort*. The teacher will then grade the work and record the grade on the check list.

Chapter Work

Each chapter in the book *But for the Grace of God: An Exposition of the Canons of Dort* comes with questions at the end of the chapter. These questions should be answered as part of the chapter work.

Grading

The average grade of the work associated with each chapter should be calculated in order to determine the overall grade for the course.

THE CANONS OF DORT COURSE CHECK-OFF LIST

Student Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____

Chapter #	CHAPTER WORK COMPLETED (X)	EXERCISE SCORE (ON 100-POINT SCALE)
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
Total of Scores on 9 Chapters		
Average Chapter Score (Total of Scores/9)		

Overall Grade in Course (Letter Grade Equivalent of the Average Test Score): _____

Note: Grading in this course should be done on a 100-point scale, with letter grades assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Score on 100-Point Scale
A+	97 - 100
A	94 - 96
A-	90 - 93
B+	87 - 89
B	84 - 86
B-	80 - 83
C+	77 - 79
C	74 - 76
C-	70 - 73
D	60 - 69
F	0 - 59

In order to determine how many points each question in a chapter assignment is worth, divide 100 by the number of questions in the assignment. For example, if there are 10 questions in an assignment, then each question is worth 10 points ($= 100 / 10$). So if a student got 9 out of the 10 questions right, then his test score is 90 ($= 9 \times 10$). His letter grade, according to the table above, would then be an A-.

THE CANONS OF DORT

TEACHER INSTRUCTION NOTES FOR CLASSES

This course in the study of the Canons of Dort will consist of 10 classes, with the content of each class outlined below:

Class 1

The textbook we shall be using for this course on the Canons of Dort is written by a theologian in the Christian Reformed Church, one of a number of Dutch Reformed denominations to come out of the state Dutch church which originally adopted the Canons of Dort. He is a theologian very competent and knowledgeable in the Canons of Dort, and overall has provided a very nice study guide to the Canons of Dort. But this theologian, Cornelis Venema, has been deceived by a number of errors to plague the modern reformed community. Let me read the preface to the book, and see if you can identify these errors, as well as identify areas where he is doctrinally correct.

Read the Preface.

What are the errors?

Some of these errors include:

- error of modern textual criticism, which rejects the Traditional Text, and contradicts the Biblical principle that God has preserved His infallible word through the generations
- error of uninspired hymns. (Historically the CRC held to exclusive psalmody in public worship, but in the 1930s strayed from this position.)

What are some areas where he is doctrinally correct, based upon your reading of the Preface?

So we can appreciate this book he has written on the Canons of Dort, but we must read it with discernment, for Cornelis Venema, though agreeing with many of the Biblical doctrines summarized in the Westminster Standards, disagrees with some as well. It is important to learn to discern what one reads and hears.

Throughout this course, as homework students will be required to read chapters from the book, and often as well read sections from the Canons of Dort in the Appendix of *But for the Grace of God: An Exposition of the Canons of Dort*. At the end of each chapter are chapter questions, which students will be required to answer.

Chapter 1 of his book, which you should read before the next class, has a good historical introduction to the Canons of Dort. It is important to understanding the historical setting in which it was written, as well as its contents themselves. By understanding the historical setting in which they were written, you will better understand their content.

So before the next class, read chapter 1 of *But for the Grace of God: An Exposition of the Canons of Dort*, and answer the questions at the end of the chapter. In the next class we shall review chapter 1 together, and go over your answers to the chapter questions. You will be graded on your answers.

Class 2

*****THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION WILL BE COMPLETED IN THE 2ND EDITION OF THE TEACHER'S MANUAL, WHICH SHOULD BE OUT BY THE END OF 2005*****

THE CANONS OF DORT
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR EACH CHAPTER

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EDITION OF THE TEACHER'S MANUAL, WHICH SHOULD BE OUT BY THE
END OF 2005*****

Chapter 1

Chapter 2

Chapter 3

Chapter 4

Chapter 5

Chapter 6

Chapter 7

Chapter 8

Chapter 9

Chapter 10

