

**Dear Friends of the Foundation:**

John Calvin wrote:

We are not our own: let not our reason nor our will, therefore, sway our plans and deeds. We are not our own: let us therefore not set it as our goal to seek what is expedient for us according to the flesh. We are not our own: in so far as we can, let us therefore forget ourselves and all that is ours.

Conversely, we are God's: let us therefore live for him and die for him. We are God's: let his wisdom and will therefore rule all our actions. We are God's: let all the parts of our life according strive toward him as our only lawful goal. O, how much has that man profited who, having been taught that he is not his own, has taken away dominion and rule from his own reason that he may yield it to God! For, as consulting our self-interest is the pestilence that most effectively leads to our destruction, so the sole haven of salvation is to be wise in nothing and to will nothing through ourselves but to follow the leading of the Lord alone.

Let this therefore be the first step, that a man depart from himself in order that he may apply the whole force of his ability in the service of the Lord.

[John Calvin, *Calvin: Institutes of the Christian Religion*, trans. from the 1559 Latin ed. by Ford Lewis Battles, 2 vols., in *Library of Christian Classics*, ed. John T. McNeill (Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1960), cited by book, chapter, section, and, in parentheses, volume and page, 3.7.1 (1:690).]

This is the kind of gospel insight, from a distinctively Reformed perspective, which the **Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)** so desperately needs to recover today.

This is the kind of gospel insight, from a distinctively Reformed perspective, which the **Foundation for Reformed Theology** is uniquely poised to offer.

Now is the time for us to move forward in our work and mission as we seek to recover the goodly heritage which God has given to us and thereby to help to renew the local congregations of the church. We need to build up the Foundation, and we need to engage more and more ministers and members in this special learning and living.

Thank you, and Merry Christmas!

Grace and Peace,

Jim

Dr. James C. Goodloe IV, *Executive Director*

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