

The Canons of Dort (1619)

**First Head of Doctrine  
(Divine Election and Reprobation)**

**LORD'S DAY #9**

**Article 17**

**Leader:** Since we are to judge of the will of God from His Word, which testifies that the children of believers are holy, not by nature, but in virtue of the covenant of grace, in which they together with the parents are comprehended, godly parents ought not to doubt the election and salvation of their children whom it pleases God to call out of this life in their infancy.<sup>1</sup>

**Article 18**

**People:** To those who murmur at the free grace of election and the just severity of reprobation we answer with the apostle: *Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God,*<sup>2</sup> and quote the language of our Savior: *Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own?*<sup>3</sup>

**Leader:** And therefore, with holy adoration of these mysteries, we exclaim in the words of the apostle: *O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and the knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past tracing out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord, or who hath been his counsellor? or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and unto him are all things. To him be the glory for ever. Amen.*<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Gen. 17:7; Acts 2:39; 1 Cor. 7:14

<sup>2</sup> Rom. 9:20

<sup>3</sup> Matt. 20:15

<sup>4</sup> Rom. 11:33-36