

The Canons of Dort (1619)

**Second Head of Doctrine
(The Death of Christ, and
the Redemption of Men Thereby)**

LORD'S DAY #22

The true doctrine having been explained, the Synod rejects the errors of those:

Paragraph 3

Leader: Who teach: That Christ by His satisfaction merited neither salvation itself for anyone, nor faith, whereby this satisfaction of Christ unto salvation is effectually appropriated; but that He merited for the Father only the authority or the perfect will to deal again with man, and to prescribe new conditions as He might desire, obedience to which, however, depended on the free will of man, so that it therefore might have come to pass that either none or all should fulfill these conditions.

People: For these adjudge too contemptuously of the death of Christ, in no wise acknowledge the most important fruit or benefit thereby gained and bring again out of hell the Pelagian error.

Paragraph 4

Leader: Who teach: That the new covenant of grace, which God the Father, through the mediation of the death of Christ, made with man, does not herein consist that we by faith, inasmuch as it accepts the merits of Christ, are justified before God and saved, but in the fact that God, having revoked the demand of perfect obedience of faith, regards faith itself and the obedience of faith, although imperfect, as the perfect obedience of the law, and does esteem it worthy of the reward of eternal life through grace.

People: For these contradict the Scriptures: *Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus; whom God set forth to be a propitiation, through faith, in his blood.*¹ And these proclaim, as did the wicked Socinus, a new and strange justification of man before God, against the consensus of the whole Church.

¹ Rom. 3:24-25