

Introduction to the Second London Baptist Confession of 1689 (Part 2)

II. History of the 1689 BCF

A. Occasion

B. Authors

C. Source Documents

1. Westminster Confession (1646)
2. Savoy Declaration (1658)
3. First London Baptist Confession (1644)

III. Overview of the 1689 BCF

A. Structure (outline)

B. Content (doctrinal distinctives)

Concluding Applications

- 1) We should hold to our confession with biblical tenacity (Eph. 4:14).
- 2) We should hold to our confession with biblical catholicity (Luke 9:49, 50; Eph. 4:15; 2 Tim. 2:24-26).
- 3) We should hold to our confession with comprehensive integrity.
- 4) We should hold to our confession as a matter of ecclesiastical polity.
- 5) We should hold to our confession as a precious legacy.

Outline of the 1689 Baptist Confession

I. The Foundations of Christian Thought (Chapters 1-8)

- A. The Scriptures (Chapter 1)
- B. God (Chapters 2, 3)
 - 1. God's Nature (Chapter 2)
 - 2. God's Decree (Chapter 3)
- C. The Original Creation (Chapters 4-6)
 - 1. Creation (Chapter 4)
 - 2. Providence (Chapter 5)
 - 3. Sin (Chapter 6)
- D. God's Covenant (Chapter 7)
- E. Christ's Person and Work (Chapter 8)

II. Experimental Religion—Salvation Applied (Chapters 9-20)

- A. The Setting of Salvation Applied—Man's Will (Chapter 9)
- B. The Blessings and Graces of Salvation Applied (Chapters 10-18)
 - 1. The Blessings God Bestows (Chapters 10-13)
 - a. Effectual Calling (Chapter 10)
 - b. Justification (Chapter 11)
 - c. Adoption (Chapter 12)
 - d. Sanctification (Chapter 13)
 - 2. The Graces Man Exercises (Chapters 14-18)
 - a. Faith (Chapter 14)
 - b. Repentance (Chapter 15)
 - c. Good Works (Chapter 16)
 - d. Perseverance (Chapter 17)
 - e. Assurance (Chapter 18)
- B. The Means of Salvation Applied (Chapters 19, 20)
 - a. God's Law (Chapter 19)
 - b. God's Gospel (Chapter 20)

III. The Divine Institutions (Chapters 21-30)

- A. Liberty of Conscience (Chapter 21)
- B. Religious Worship (Chapters 22, 23)
 - 1. Overview of Religious Worship (Chapter 22)
 - 2. Religious Vows (Chapter 23)
- C. Civil Government (Chapter 24)
- D. Marriage (Chapter 25)
- E. The Church (Chapters 26-30)
 - 1. Overview of the Church (Chapter 26)
 - 2. The Fellowship of the Church (Chapter 27)
 - 3. The Sacraments of the Church (Chapters 28-30)
 - a. Overview of the Sacraments (Chapter 28)
 - b. Baptism (Chapter 29)
 - c. Lord's Supper (Chapter 30)

IV. Division 4: The World to Come (Chapters 31, 32)

- A. The Intermediate and Resurrection States (Chapter 31)
- B. The Final Judgment (Chapter 32)

The Doctrinal Distinctives of the 1689 London Confession

The 1689's Doctrinal Distinctives	The Opposing Errors	1689 Chapter and Paragraph	Major Scriptural Support
1. <u>Christian</u> (Orthodox)	Damning Heretical Doctrines		
1.1 re: Scripture	Liberal; Neo-Orthodox	Ch. 1	1 John 4:6
1.2 re: God	Jehovah's Witnesses	Ch. 2	1 John 5:12; John 7-11
1.3 re: Creation and Providence	Evolution; Chance	Chs. 4,5,6	Acts 17:30,31
1.4 re: Christ	Liberal; Neo-Orthodox; Jehovah's Witnesses	Ch. 8	Rom. 10:9,10
1.5 re: The Gospel	Roman Catholic	Ch. 11	Gal. 1:6-10
1.6 re: The Christian Life	Easy Believism	Ch. 11:2; Ch. 13	1 Cor. 6:9,10
1.7 re: The World to Come	Universalism; Annihilationism	Chs. 31,32	2 Tim. 2:16-18; Rev. 22:19; 20:15; 14:9-11
2. <u>Covenantal</u>	Dispensational	Ch. 7	Acts 4:12; Jer. 31:31-34; 1 Cor. 11:25; Rom. 9:6; Gal. 3:29; Phil. 3:3
3. <u>Calvinistic</u> (Following the Canons of the Synod of Dort)	Arminian; Hypercalvinist		
3.1 The Planning of Salvation: Unconditional Election	Foreseen Merit	Ch. 3	Matt. 11:20-28; Eph. 1:4,5
3.2 The Accomplishment of Salvation: Definite Atonement	Universal Atonement	Ch. 8:5,8	Rom. 8:32
3.3 Conversion			
3.3.1 Total Inability (Depravity)	Prevenient Grace	Ch. 9 (Ch. 6)	Rom. 8:7,8; Jer. 13:23 John 6:44
3.3.2 The Free Offer of the Gospel	Hypercalvinism	Ch. 7:2; Ch. 20:3	Matt. 28:18-20; 28:19; John 5:34
3.3.3 Irresistible Grace	Decisionism	Ch. 10; Ch. 20:4	Rom. 9:14-16
3.4 The Christian Life: Perseverance of the Saints	Falling from grace	Ch. 17	Phil. 1:6
4. <u>Puritan</u>			
4.1 Liberty of Conscience	Legalism; Traditionalism; Catholicism; Anglicanism	Ch. 21	Rom. 14:4; Matt. 15:9
4.2 God-honoring Worship		Chs. 22,,23	
4.2.1 The Regulative Principle	Anglican; Sovereign Grace; Charismatic	Ch. 22:1	Deut. 12:32
4.2.2 God's Designated Day: The Christian Sabbath	Libertarian; Sovereign Grace	Ch. 22:7,8	Ex. 20:8; 1 Cor. 16:1,2; Is. 58:13,14
4.3 The Priority of Experimental Religion: Scrupulous piety and devotion	Theonomy; Formalism; Health, Wealth, and Prosperity Teaching; Charismatic; Sovereign Grace	Chs. 10-20	
4.3.1 Careful consideration of the blessings of experimental religion.		Chs. 10-13	Calling, Justification, Adoption, Sanctification

4.3.2	Diligent Cultivation of the graces of experimental religion		Chs. 14-18	Faith, Repentance, Good Works, Perseverance, Assurance
4.3.3	Conscientious compliance with the obligations of experimental religion: evangelical obedience to God's law and gospel.	Antinomianism	Chs. 19,20	Rom. 1:15-17; 2:14-16; 3:19,20,31; 7:7-12,25; 8:4,7; 13:8-10
4.4	The Propriety of Civic Duty	Anabaptists; Pietism	Ch. 24	Luke 3:14
4.5	The Propriety and Purity of Christian Marriage	Roman Catholicism; Asceticism	Ch. 25	Heb. 13:4; 1 Tim. 4:3

5. Independent and Baptist

5.1	re: Separation of Church and State	Erastianism; Established Religion	Ch. 24 (Deletion of WC paragraph)	Col. 1:18 1 Cor. 12:27,28 Acts 16:4; 1 Cor. 6:1
5.2	re: Universal Church Principles	Landmarkism; Roman Catholicism	Ch. 26:1-4	Heb. 12:23; Eph. 3:21; Gal. 1:13,22
5.3	re: Local Church Polity [Adapted from Savoy Platform of Polity]		Ch. 26:5-15	
5.3.1	Regenerate local church membership	Paedobaptism; Formalism	Ch. 26:2,6; (S.P. 8)	Acts 2:41,42; 5:13,14; 2 Cor. 6:14-18
5.3.2	Mandatory and autonomous local church formation	Denominationalism; Synodical Government	Ch. 26:5,7; (S.P. 2,3,4)	Matt. 18:15-20; 28:20; Acts 14:21-23
5.3.3	Presbyterial local church government	Episcopal; Congregational	Ch. 26:8-11; (S.P. 7,9,11,13)	Acts 14:21-23; 20:17,18; Phil. 1:1 Titus 1:5
5.3.4	The necessity for local church discipline	Pragmatism; Crass Individualism	Ch. 26:12,13; (S.P. 20,21)	Matt. 18:15-17; Rom., 16:17-20; 1 Cor. 5:1-11; 2 Thess. 3:6,14,15; Titus 3:10,11
5.3.5	The propriety and benefit of local church association	Landmarkism	Ch. 26:14,15 (S.P. 25,26)	2 Cor. 8:18,19,23
5.4	re: Broader church fellowship and benevolence	Social Gospel; Parachurch Movements	Ch. 27	1 Cor. 12:14-27; Acts 11:29,30
5.5	re: The Sacraments		Chs. 28-30	
5.5.1	Believer only Baptism	Paedobaptism		Acts 2:41; 8:12; 10:47,48; 18:8; Col. 2:11,12
5.5.2	Believer only Communion	The Mass		Heb. 9:25,26,28; 1 Cor. 11:24