

Catechetical Sermon, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Canons of Dort, Head 1, articles 12-14: “The Assurance of Election”**

Scripture Lesson: John 10:22-30

<b>Lesson Aim</b>	To understand how you can have assurance of your election.
<b>Steps to Learning</b>	Read the <a href="#">Canons of Dort, Head 1, articles 12-14</a> and <a href="#">John 10:22-30</a> . Also discuss the sermon and the particulars of the lesson below. It may be best to work through the material over several days or sessions.
<b>Discuss</b>	<p><b>Can Christians have assurance of their election?</b> Yes, as article 12 points out, “the elect in due time, though in various degrees and in different measures, attain the assurance of this their eternal and unchangeable election.”</p> <p><b>Are we to inquisitively pry into the secret and deep things of God with respect to determining if we are elect?</b> No, because God is steeped in mystery and we must base conclusions about election in the Word of God.</p> <p><b>What has God revealed in the Word of God about the assurance of our election?</b> Article 12: “By observing in ourselves with a spiritual joy and holy pleasure the infallible fruits of election pointed out in the Word of God, such as, a true faith in Christ, childlike fear of God, a godly sorrow for sin, a hungering and thirsting after righteousness, etc.”</p> <p><b>The central issue of the assurance of our election is what God reveals in the Word of God. And what specifically does Jesus reveal about assurance of election?</b> In John 6:37 he says, “All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.” Therefore, if we come to Jesus in faith, then we are God’s elect for he will not cast us out. Only God’s elect believe.</p> <p><b>True faith includes knowledge, assent to the truth of that knowledge and a hearty trust in Christ. Where does this hearty trust come from?</b> The <a href="#">Heidelberg Catechism, answer 21</a> says that this hearty trust is worked in us by the Holy Spirit through the Gospel. This fact helps us to see that faith, which contributes to our assurance of election, is something revealed outside of us; it is something objective. There are subjective fruits of election such as a fear of God, etc. but the foundation of our assurance is revealed in the Word of God through Christ.</p>
<b>Bible Reading</b>	<a href="#">2 Timothy – Titus 3</a> (Reading through the New Testament)