

THE 'REFORMATIONAL" WORLDVIEW

Written by Calvin Fox

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Just as there are several non-Biblical World Views available, there are also several versions of a full-orbed Biblical Worldview. The one presented here comes out of the Reformed, Calvinistic Tradition as it was developed by Dutch Theologians , especially Abraham Kuyper, Herman Dooyeweerd and D.H.T.Vollenhoven

Basic definition of the Christian faith: “God the Father has reconciled His created but fallen world through the death of His Son, and renews it into the Kingdom of God by His Spirit.” -
Herman Bavinck, quoted by Al Wolters, Creation Regained p. 10

What makes the “Reformational Worldview” different than other Christian views is that the former takes each term in Bavinck’s Definition all inclusively, whereas the latter restrict the scope of each. The Reformational Worldview is integral. The others are dualistic. They divide life experience into two realms: Sacred & Secular.

The Reformational Worldview allows for no such distinction.

As Al Wolters says, All of creation is good, has fallen, but is reconciled and can be renewed into the Kingdom

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of God (
p.11)
The words
creation
,
fallen
,
reconciled
,
renewed
and
Kingdom
are taken in the fullest, cosmic sense and applied now.

The Reformational Worldview is "creational". It begins with Creation (Gen 1-2) Non-reformational Christian worldviews tend to be non-creational or pre-creational or anti-creational and usually begin with Genesis 3

In those non-Kuyperian views, generally, Creation is the secular realm and Salvation has to do with the spiritual realm. Salvation is primarily about "Man's" soul and eternal life. This "World" is hopelessly fallen and lost.

Heaven (the next world) is the focus. Such a dualism is not Scriptural. Redemption includes both, even as our physical bodies as well as our souls are to be saved.

The Reformational Worldview is about re-formation: "Grace restores Creation", "Redemption includes Re-Creation" of human beings and human culture and a new heaven and earth.

Rev 21:5 And he who sat upon the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true."