

WHAT IS FEDERAL THEOLOGY?

Federal Theology describes the relationship between man and God in terms of Covenants. It aims to answer the question, "what has God done and what do I need to do?"

In other words Federal Theology was one response from the Reformation to the issue of divine sovereignty and human responsibility.

The great Princeton theologian, B. B. Warfield called federal (covenant) theology, "architectonic principle" of the Westminster Confession of Faith (1647). In other words, Warfield was saying that the Covenant scheme of God in His dealings with man is the principle that shaped the truths of the Westminster Confession.

Federal Headship is a biblical concept with some very important ramifications.

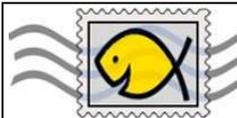
Federal theology recognises that Adam represented all men. When he fell, we fell. But...

Because of God's Covenant with Jesus (an agreement to represent and redeem His people), we are able to enjoy salvation and have eternal life. Jesus Christ represents us before the Father as the satisfaction for the Law of God which Adam failed to uphold.

5. How are we to think about Adam's Fall (Isa 43:6)? **Either...**

- God didn't know it would happen until it did
- God knew it would happen but couldn't stop it
- God knew it would happen but didn't stop it
- God determined that it should happen, so it did

WRITE OUT TODAY'S MEMORY VERSE (ROM 3:23-24)



**THIS, THE SCRIPTURES
TEACH AND THIS WE
BELIEVE ABOUT...**

THE FALL OF MAN



**ADAM WALKED WITH GOD IN KNOWLEDGE,
RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HOLINESS. BUT...**

THE FALL

Genesis 3:1-24

ADAM FELL

- Rationalism - Man is not fallen, Adam, not literal
- Neo-orthodoxy - Man is fallen, but not as the bible explains it.

Genesis 3 is a literal record of events (Rom 5:12-21)

1. What reasons do we have to believe this is true?

Therefore,

The fall of man is to be accepted as it stands.

WHEN ADAM FELL, WE FELL

- Adam represented the whole human race (federal theology)
- Our character was depended on his conduct. (Rom 5:19)
- The guilt of Adam is imputed to his descendants
- The evidence of this is our corrupt nature from birth (Ps 51)

2. What are the implications of rejecting the guilt of Adams sin?

Therefore,

The results of mankind's one act of rebellion are...

- Lost: communion with God (3:8, 24)
- Lost: original righteousness (3:11)
- We became dead in sin and wholly defiled (Gen 2:17; 6:5)

3. What does it mean to be wholly defiled?

WHEN ADAM WAS CURSED, WE WERE CURSED

- God requires those made in His image to be like Him in holiness (1 Peter 1:16)
- We are not (1 John 3:4)
- We are slaves of sin (Rom 6:12-17)
- We have no lasting life while we remain in sin (Eph 2:1-5)
- We are, by nature, children of wrath (Eph 2:3)
- God's curse is on mankind now (Gal 3:22)
- With eternal misery to come (2 Thes 1:8-9)

Therefore,

Since the judgement and the sentence has already be pronounced, mankind is unable to save himself

4. Is there any evidence that man knows he is under wrath?
