

Calvin's Institutes of the Christian Religion
11 The True Church

1. Description

(a) [I]t is not enough that every one of us should _____ acknowledge the benefits that God has bestowed upon him, but that we must all _____ in that mind.

(b) Calvin says the marks of a true church are:

i.

ii.

(c) Calvin defines the invisible church as:

(d) Calvin (and the Westminster Confession) define the visible church as:

(e) Our Confession limits the visible church to _____

2. Teachers & Ministers

Eph 4:11-12

(a) The head of the church is _____.

(b) Under the category of _____ or ordinary offices of the church, Calvin lists _____, _____, _____ and _____.

(c) Although certain men are to be leaders, yet it does not follow that they are so wise that they must not be _____ as well as the rest.

(d) Deacons supervise the church's _____ and care for the sick and the poor.

3. Church Discipline

(a) Discipline is not a third _____ of a true church, but it is _____ if the church is to preserve its character as a true church.

(b) The three purposes of church discipline are:

- i.
- ii.
- iii.

(c) Calvin saw three steps in church discipline:

Matt 18:15-18

- i.
- ii.
- iii.

4. Truth & Error

(a) The head of the church is _____, not _____.

(b) The power of the church, therefore, is not _____, but _____ to the Lord's Word, and, as it were, enclosed within it.

(c) Christ alone is the _____ of the church, of whom alone it is written, "_____."

Next time:

The Sacraments and Civil Government

- Institutes 4.14-20
- 1689 LBCF Ch. 24, 28, 29, 30
- Eph 5:25-26, Titus 3:5, John 6:51, Matt. 26:26-29, Rom 13:1-7