

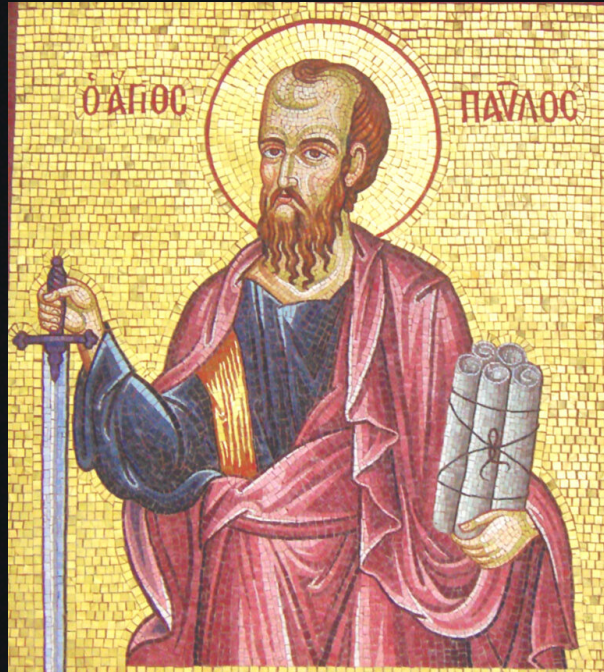
“Reformed Basics”

1. Introduction. Scripture.

Reformed tradition: the Apostles Onward



Reformed tradition: the Apostles Onward



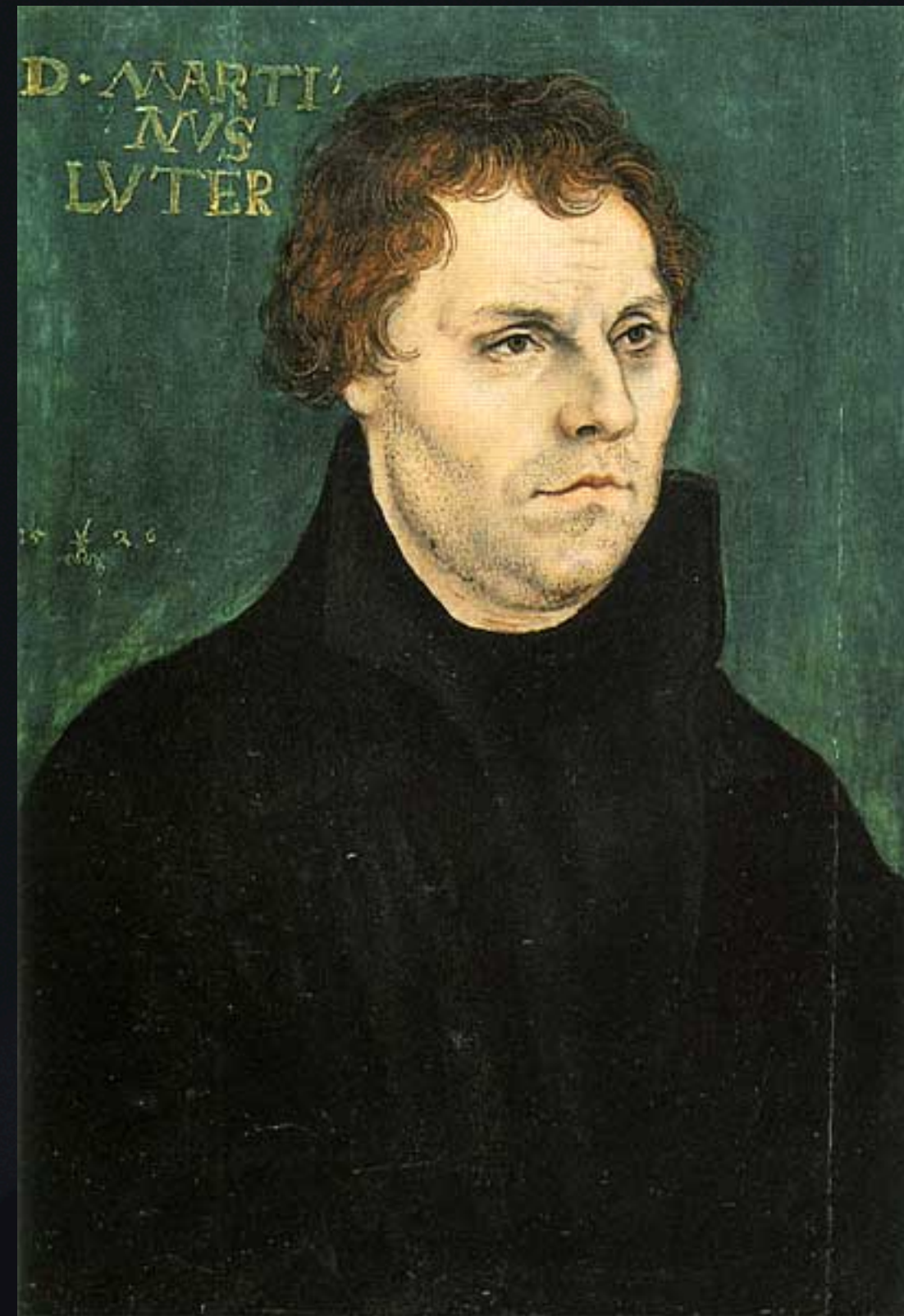
Augustine of Hippo
354–430

Reformed tradition: the Apostles Onward



Thomas Aquinas
late 1200s

Reformed tradition: the Apostles Onward



Martin Luther
1517
John Calvin
1536

Reformed tradition: the Apostles Onward

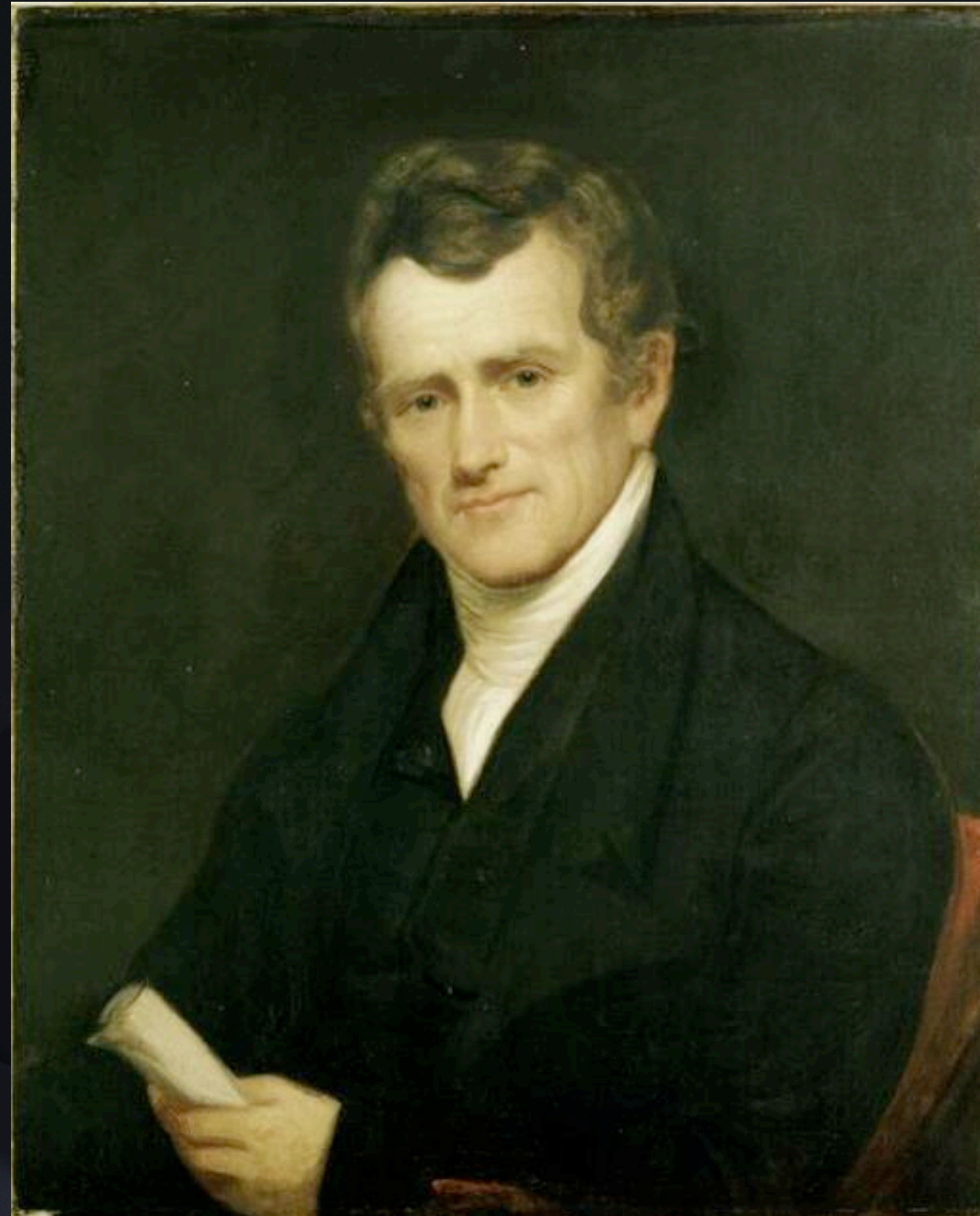


Samuel Davies
middle 1700s

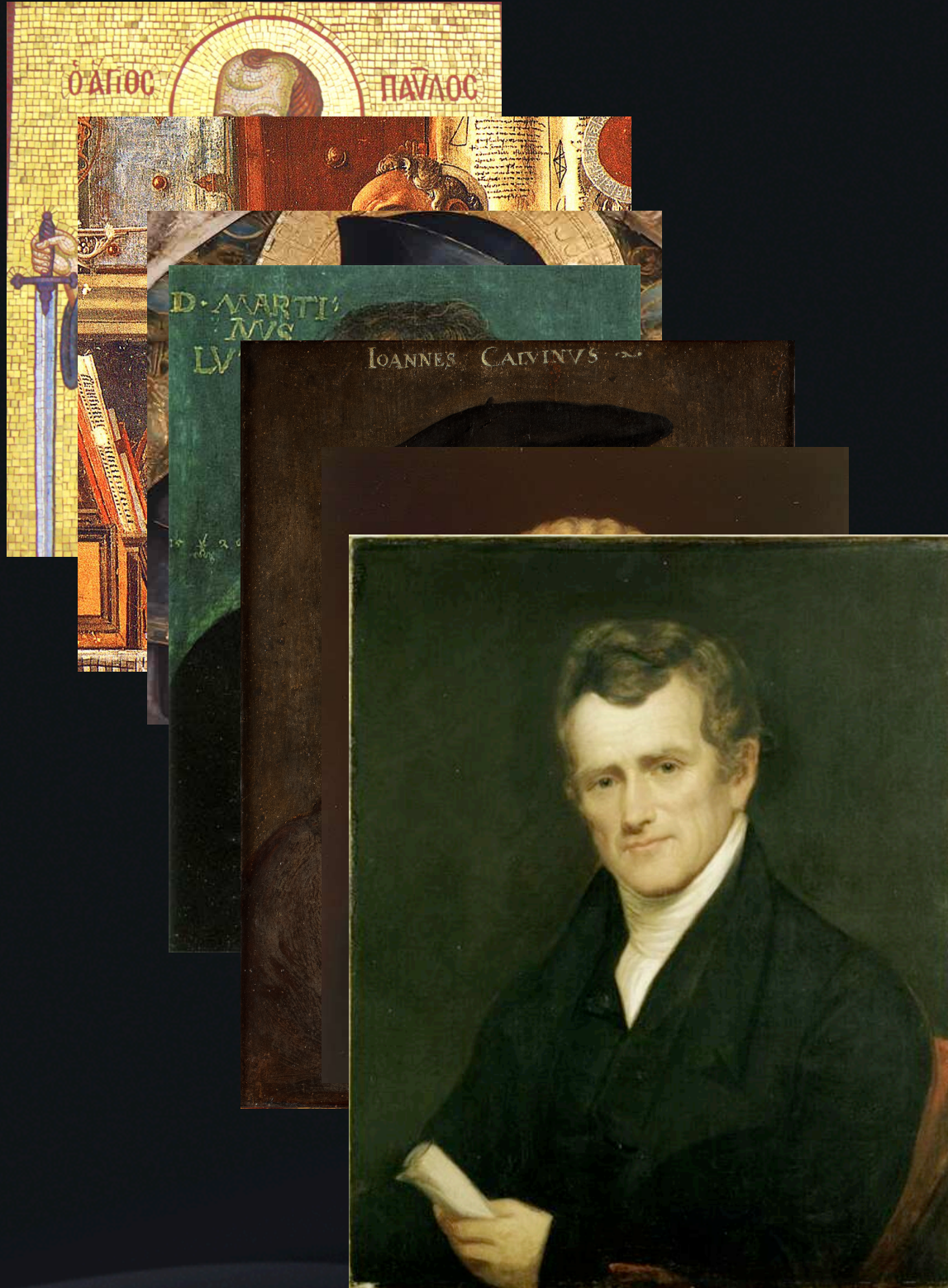
Reformed tradition: the Apostles Onward



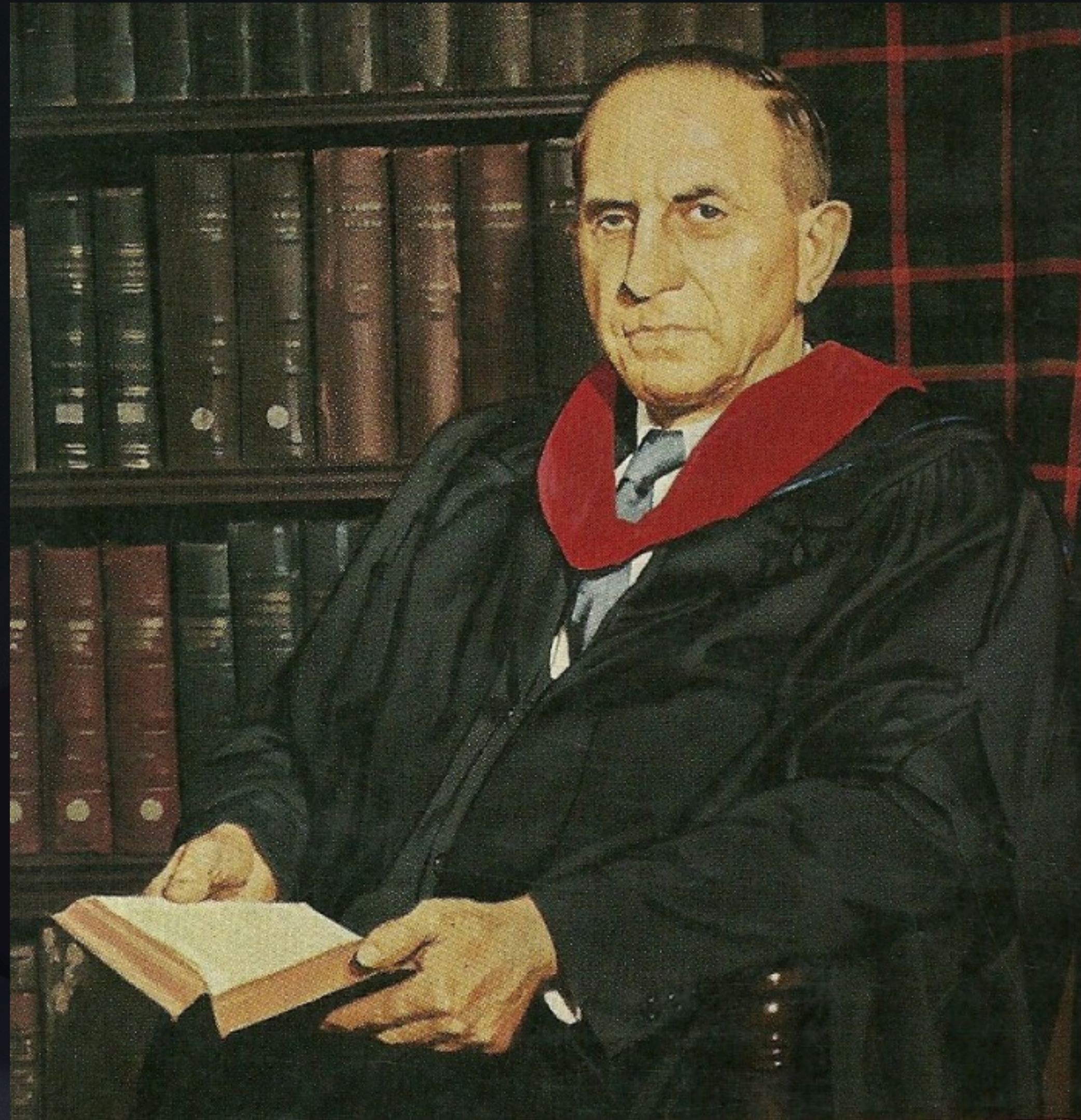
Archibald Alexander
early 1800s



Reformed tradition: the Apostles Onward



John Murray
1930s-1970s

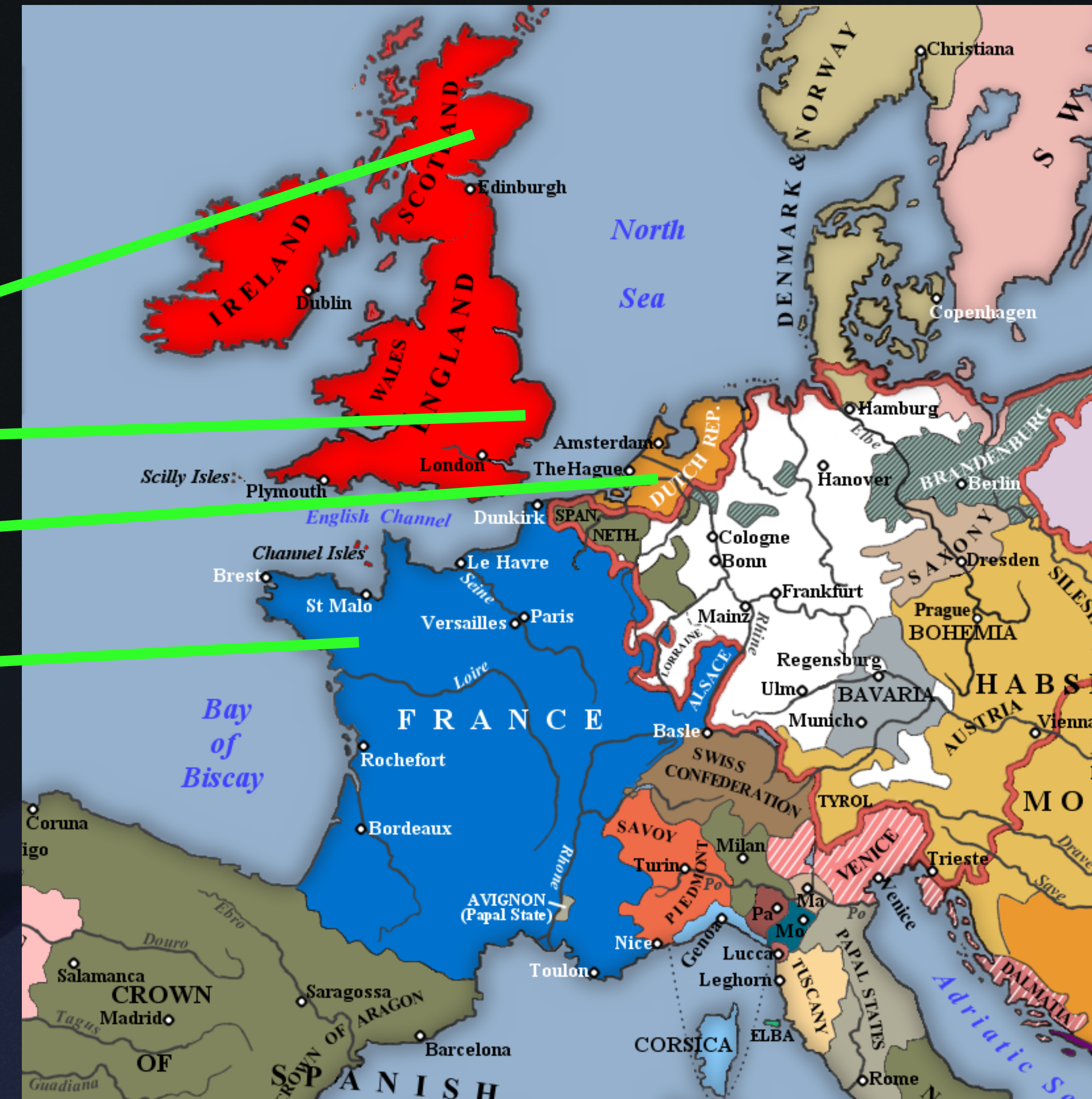


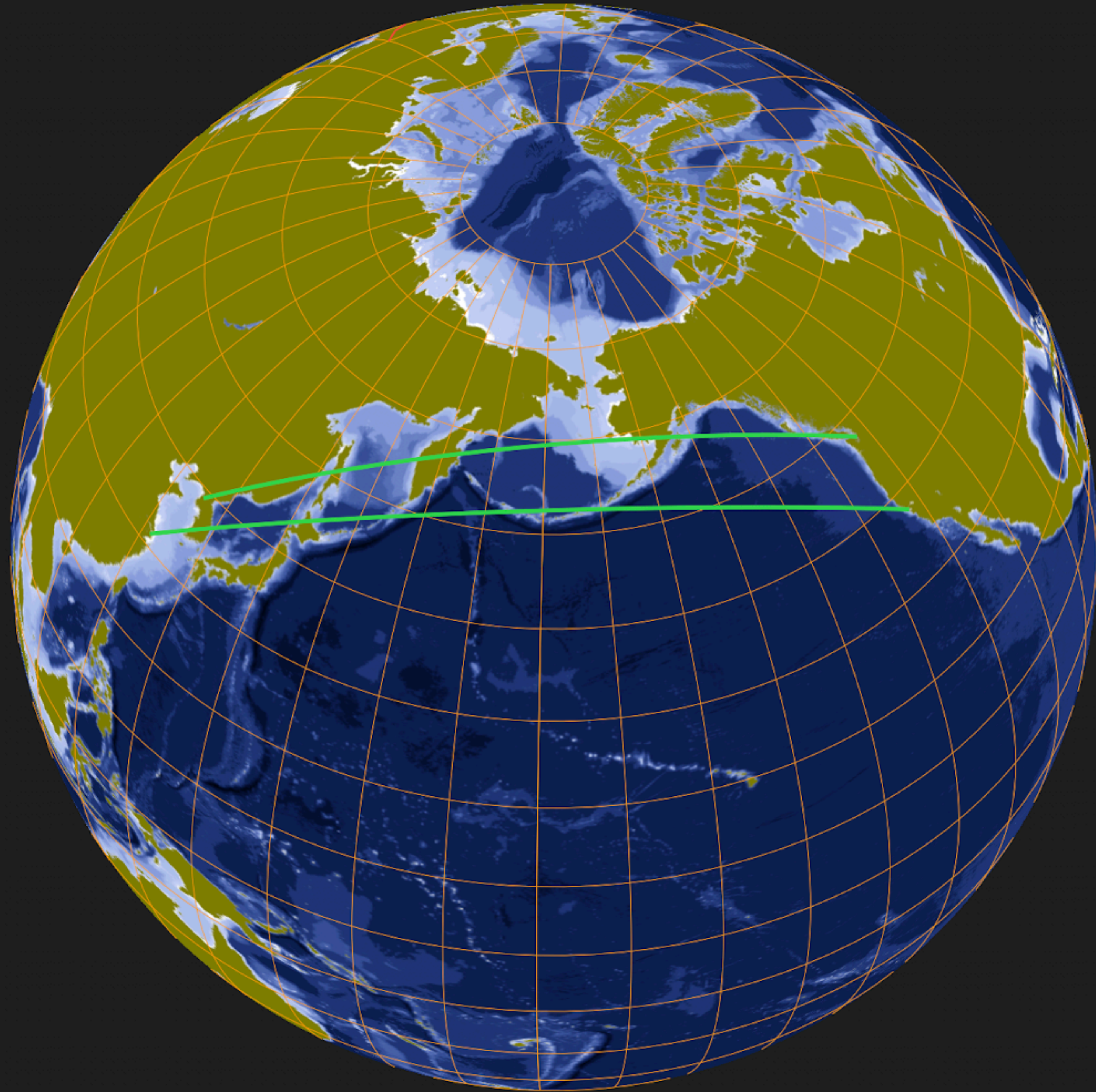
Reformed tradition: the Apostles Onward







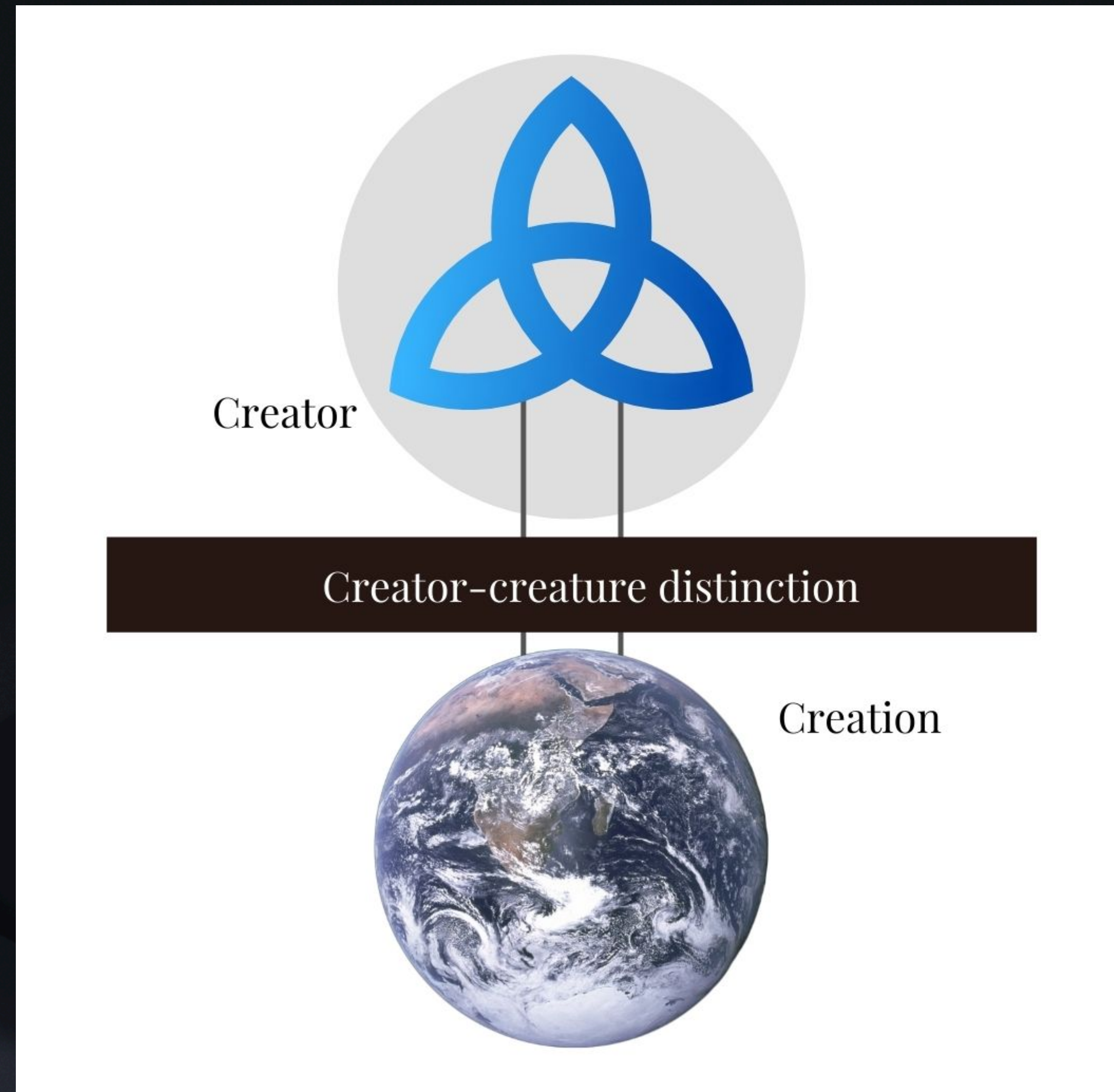




This course is an introduction

- It's too much material to absorb on your first exposure
- We'll give you further things to watch or read
- Your ordained leadership believes these things. These convictions underlie what you're taught.

We cannot know God unless He reveals Himself



The Scripture: reliably preserved

...κ εἰμὶ χεὶρ, οὐκ εἰμὶ ἐκ τοῦ σώματος,
οὐ παρὰ τοῦτο οὐ[κ] ...

[Because] I am not a hand, I do not
belong to the body, that would not...
1 Cor 12:15

Jesus said to them, “Is this not the reason you are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God?

...

And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the bush, how God spoke to him, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? He is not God of the dead, but of the living. You are quite wrong.”

Mark 12:26–27

“Is it not written in your Law, I said, you are gods’?
If he called them gods to whom the word of God
came—and Scripture cannot be broken— do
you say of him whom the Father consecrated
and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’...”

John 10:35–6

“Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures...”

Luke 24:44-45

Behind all the human authors is a divine Author

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness...” (2 Tim 3:16)

“For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.” (2 Peter 1:21)

Scripture is a “canon”

“Canon” is a measuring rod, a standard to measure against.

- Our Old Testament is the Hebrew canon
- New Testament formed as the Church **recognized** Apostolic and other writings as Scripture
- “And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, 16 as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures.” (2 Peter 3:15–6)
- The Church has always been aware of OT and NT Apocrypha.

How do we interpret Scripture?

- Normal rules of linguistics and grammar
- Interpret difficult passages in light of clearer passages.
- The Scriptures are sufficient for every believer to learn “how we may glorify and enjoy Him.”
- Mainstream English translations of the Bible are reliable.

Scripture is given firstly to a community

Not firstly to me as an individual! Never “me and Jesus and my Bible”

- And when this letter has been read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you also read the letter from Laodicea. (Col4:16)
- He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. (Rev 2:7)
- Applications:
 - Weekly preaching!
 - Hear the historical community: creeds and confessions
 - This tradition is always subject to the Scripture

Summary: God has spoken

- We cannot know God unless he reveals Himself.
- His revelation has been reduced to writing: Old and New Testaments
- We submit to Scripture as did the Lord Jesus
- We receive the Scripture as God's covenant people