

# *NBC Proposed Confession of Faith*

## **Sunday School Class**

*November 14, 2010*

### **Class Outline**



**Class #1:** Introduction: *Why Do This Study?*

**Class #2:**

1. The Tri-une God
2. Revelation (Part 1)

**Class #3:**

2. Revelation (Part 2)

**Class #4:**

3. Creation of Humanity

**Class #5:**

4. The Fall
5. The Plan of God
6. The Gospel

**Class #6:**

7. The Redemption of Christ
8. The Justification of Sinners

**Class #7:**

9. The Power of the Holy Spirit

**Class #8:**

10. The Kingdom of God

**Class #9:**

11. God's New People

**Class #10 & 11:**

12. Baptism and the Lord's Supper
13. The Restoration of All Things

## *The Fall*

This only have I found: God made mankind upright, but men have gone in search of many schemes.

**Ecclesiastes 7:29**

*“That was the lie that the tempter brought to Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. Man was told to seek discernment in Satan’s way and not in God’s.” – J. Gresham Machen*

Read Paragraph #4 **“The Fall”**

Read (Gen. 3); **Romans 3:9-20**

*“It is a sad story indeed. But it is the beginning and not the end of the Bible. The first chapters of the Bible tell us of the sin of man. The guilt of that sin has rested upon every single one of us, its guilt and its terrible results; but that is not the last word of the Bible. The Bible tells us not only of man’s sin; it also tells us of something greater still; it tells us of the grace of the offended God.” . – J. Gresham Machen*

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## *The Plan of God*

Read Paragraph #4 **“The Plan of God”**

*“The doctrine of election, like every truth about God, involves mystery and sometimes stirs controversy. But in Scripture it is a pastoral doctrine, brought in to help Christians see how great is the grace that saves them, and to move them to humility, confidence, joy, praise, faithfulness, and holiness in response. It is the family secret of the children of God. We do not know who else he has chosen among those who do not yet believe, nor why it was his good pleasure to choose us in particular. What we do know is, first, that had we not been chosen for life we would not be believers now (for only the elect are brought to faith), and, second, that as elect believers we may rely on God to finish in us the good work that he started (1 Cor. 1:8-9; Phil. 1:6; 1 Thess. 5:23-24; 2 Tim. 1:12; 4:18). Knowledge of one’s election thus brings comfort and joy.” – J.I. Packer*

Read **Romans 8:28-30**;



## *The Gospel*

Read Paragraph #6 “**The Gospel**” (below)

We believe that the gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ—God’s very wisdom. Utter folly to the world, even though it is the power of God to those who are being saved [**1 Cor. 1:18-25**], this good news is Christ-centered, centering on the cross and resurrection: the gospel is not proclaimed if Christ is not proclaimed, and the authentic Christ has not been proclaimed if his death and resurrection are not central (the message is “Christ died for our sins . . . [and] was raised”). [**Rom. 6:3-11**] This good news is biblical (his death and resurrection are according to the Scriptures) [**1 Cor. 15:3-8**], theological and salvific (Christ died for our sins, to reconcile us to God) [**Col. 1:21-23**], historical (if the saving events did not happen, our faith is worthless, we are still in our sins, and we are to be pitied more than all others) [**1 Cor. 15:17-20**], apostolic (the message was entrusted to and transmitted by the apostles, who were witnesses of these saving events) [**1 John 1:1-3**], and intensely personal (where it is received, believed, and held firmly, individual persons are saved). [**Rom. 10:9-13**]