

Jesus the Dragon-Slayer
The Belgic Confession, Article 17

1. The Doctrine

- a. The Belgic Confession emphasizes the character of our salvation, not as an abstract decree of God, but as God's response to our plight within history: "seeing that man had thus thrown himself into physical and spiritual death and made himself wholly miserable...."

- b. The Confession summarizes the story of redemption as beginning with the first promise of Genesis 3:15. God "was pleased to seek and comfort him, when he trembling fled from His presence, promising him that He would give His Son (who would be born of a woman) to bruise the head of the serpent and to make him blessed."

- c. This emphasis is a rich and glorious treasure of the Reformed tradition, one of the clear expressions of our catholicity and our connection with the whole history of the church.

2. The First Promise: Genesis 3:15

3. The Big Picture: Revelation 12

4. Our Mission: Romans 16:20

5. Why This Matters

- a. The Glory of Christ: "the fullness of time" (Galatians 4:4)

- b. The Unity of the Bible as Christian Scripture

- c. A Vision for Kingdom Purpose