

## Westminster Confession of Faith: Session Six

### WCF 5 – Of Providence

“The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD” (Proverbs 16:33 NKJV).

#### I. Preliminary Remarks

##### a. God’s Works Ad Intra and Ad Extra

##### b. Defining Providence

WSC 11: “God’s works of providence are, his most holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing all his creatures, and all their actions.”

#### II. WCF Chapter V

##### a. *The Scope, Basis, and Goal of Providence* (5.1) – Eph. 1:3-12

###### i. Nature

###### ii. Scope

###### iii. Basis

###### iv. Goal

##### b. *Providence and “Second Causes”* (5.2)

- c. *God's Use of Means* (5.3)
  - i. Ordinary vs. Extraordinary Providences
  
  - ii. Precise Language
  
- d. *Providence and Sin* (5.4)
  
- e. *God's Fatherly Providence* (5.5)
  
- f. *God's Providential Judgment* (5.6)
  
- g. *Providence and the Church* (5.7)

#### Helpful Resources

Calvin, John. *The Secret Providence of God*. Edited by Paul Helm. Translated by Keith Goad. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2010.

Hodge, Archibald Alexander. *A Commentary on the Confession of Faith*. Philadelphia, PA: Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work, 1869; pp. 129-146.

———. *Outlines of Theology*. Rewritten and Enlarged. New York, NY: Hodder & Stoughton, 1878; pp. 258-279.

Van Dixhoorn, Chad. *Confessing the Faith: A Reader's Guide to the Westminster Confession of Faith*. Carlisle, PA: The Banner of Truth Trust, 2014; pp. 67-80.