

Trent and Justification contin'd

Calvin and the Council of Trent on the Causes of Justification		
	Trent	Calvin
Final Cause (the goal)	"The glory of God and of Christ"	"the praise of God's goodness"
Efficient Cause (the source)	"the God of mercy"	"the mercy of the Heavenly Father"
Material Cause (the substance)	"our Lord Jesus Christ"	"Christ, with his obedience"
Formal or Instrumental Cause (the means)	"the sacrament of baptism"	"through faith in his blood"

Next week: *English Reformation & Puritanism*

caleb.morell@capbap.org

joseph.thigpen@capbap.org

nick.gardner.29@gmail.com

Reformation Contested: Calvin and the Council of Trent (1509-1564)

Church History Core Seminar | Class 7 of 13

1. John Calvin (1509-1564)

1509 - Born in Noyon, France

1533 - Calvin's conversion

1535 - Flees to Basel. Publishes *Institutes* while in Basel at age 26.

1536 - Geneva & William Farel

1538-1541 - Exile in Strasbourg with Martin Bucer (marries Idellete)

1541 - Return to Geneva

1555 - Church finally granted control over discipline

1558 - Starts Genevan Academy

1559 - Completes definitive edition of the *Institutes*

1564 - Died on May 27 at age 55.

2. Council of Trent (1545-1563)

The “Dangerous Game of Council”

February 5, 1523: Charles V demands a council.

May 6, 1527: Charles V invades Rome.

“Between the bull Exurge Domine excommunicating Martin Luther in June 1520 and the convening of the Council of Trent in December 1545, 25 years passed, because the Papacy feared calling a Council it could not control.”

Structural Reforms: Bishops & Benefices

“The heart of Tridentine reform was to get bishops and pastors back home to do their job.” - John O’Malley

Scripture & Authority

The Canon and the Apocrypha

“If anyone does not accept as sacred and canonical the aforesaid books in their entirety and with all their parts... let him be anathema.”

Scripture and “Unwritten Traditions”

“It also clearly perceives that these truths [concerning the Gospel] and rules are contained in the written books and in the unwritten traditions, which received by the Apostles from the mouth of Christ Himself, or from the Apostles themselves, the Holy Ghost dictating, have come down to us, transmitted as it were from hand to hand ... Since God is the author of both [Testaments]; also the traditions, whether they relate to faith or to morals, as having been dictated either orally by Christ or by the Holy Ghost, and preserved in the Catholic Church in unbroken succession.” *Decree Concerning the Canonical Scriptures*, April 1546.

Trent and Justification

“The grace of justification once received is lost not only by apostasy, by which faith itself is lost, but also by any other mortal sin, though faith is not lost.” Session 6, Chapter 15.

The cause of justification: faith or the sacraments?

“If any one saith that a man is truly absolved from his sins and justified, because that he assuredly believed himself absolved and justified; or, that no one is truly justified but he who believes himself justified... let him be anathema.” Or Canon XIV, which says,