

## II. CREATION

### A. Creation in General

#### 1. Statement of the Doctrine

The Second Helvetic Confession, Chapter 7, states:

This good and almighty God created all things, both visible and invisible, by his eternal Word, and preserves the same also by his eternal Spirit; as David witnesses, saying, 'By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth' (Psa. 33:6); and, as the Scripture says, 'All things that the Lord created were very good' (Gen. 1:31), and made for the use and profit of man.

Now, we say, that all those things do proceed from one beginning; and therefore we detest the Manichees and the Marcionites, who did wickedly imagine two substances and natures, the one of good, the other of evil; and also two beginnings and two gods, one contrary to the other a good and an evil.

The Belgic Confession, Article 12, states:

We believe that the Father, by the Word that is, by His Son created of nothing the heaven, the earth, and all creatures, as it seemed good unto him, giving unto every creature its being, shape, form, and several offices to serve its Creator; that he doth also still uphold and govern them by his eternal providence and infinite power for the service of mankind, to the end that man may serve his God.

The Irish Articles of Religion, section 18, states:

In the beginning of time, when no creature had any being, God, by his word alone, in the space of six days, created all things, and afterwards, by his providence, doth continue, propagate, and order them according to his own will.

The Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter 4, section 1, states:

It pleased God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, for the manifestation of the glory of his eternal power, wisdom, and goodness, in the beginning, to create or make of nothing the world, and all things therein, whether visible or invisible, in the space of six days, and all very good.

Charles Hodge, in volume 1 of his *Systematic Theology*, states:

The Scriptural doctrine on this subject is expressed in the first words of the Bible: "in the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." The heavens and the earth include all things out of God. Of which things the Scriptures teach that they owe their existence to the will and power of God. The Scriptural doctrine therefore is, (1.) That the universe is not eternal. It