

"This book will make a traveler of thee..."
John Bunyan, *Pilgrim's Progress*

I - Life is a Journey

Spirituality is All the Rage (but not Religion)

A. Different Views of Spirituality

1. Academic Discipline
2. Body of Teaching
3. Experiential

B. Defining (or Describing) Reformed Spirituality

“Reformed Spirituality” is the Spirit of God’s *work* of grace in the heart and walk of believers, who make diligent use of the *means* of God’s grace (Word, sacraments and prayer) in the *context* of God’s grace (the church), for renewal and conformity to Christ, and for serving him in the church and in the world.

1. The Reformed “four-fold” scheme: Creation - Fall - Redemption - Consummation
2. The sufficiency of God’s redeeming grace - both forensic and transformative
3. The Christian life as journey (pilgrimage)

Spirituality as a Journey

A. “Life is a journey” (in folk, pop & high culture); as a metaphor

B. David Lyle Jeffrey: The “Significance of Master Plots”

1. Linear (West)
2. Loop (East)

G.K. Chesterton - *“There are two ways of getting home; and one of them is to stay there. The other is to walk round the whole world till we come back to the same place...”* - *The Everlasting Man*, 11

C. Religious pilgrimages

II – The Bible’s Pilgrim Language

The “Divided Highway”

A. Word of God: All Humanity is on a Journey (right way, wrong way) – Matt 7.13,14

B. Two Paths & Two Destinations

Heb 3.7 – 4.13 (cf., 1Cor 10.1-6; 1Pet 1.17); Php 3.19-21; John 17.14-18 (Jn 15.19; 1Jn 2.15; Jam 4.4; Mt 13.22; Rom 12.2)

The “Way”

- A. “Walking”: *How you live*, (³Jn 3,4; Eph 4.1)
 - 1. Whole course of your life (trajectory, direction)
Psa 1.1; Prov 3.5,6; Isa 30.21; Jer 21.8; Jn 12.46; 2Cor 10.2; 2Thess 3.6. 1Jn 1.6;
 - 2. Walking implies more than knowing. It implies the direction of your life
- B. Wrong Way
 - 1. Walk the wrong road, in the wrong direction, or taking the wrong steps
 - a. “turn to left... right” - Deut 5.32
 - b. “turn away” - 2Tim 4.4; “turn aside” - Jer 5.23; Prov 7.25
 - d. “turn back” – 1Kgs 11.4,9; Jdg 8.33; Prov 1.32
 - e. “wander off/away” – 2Tim 4.4; 1Tim 1.6; Prov 4.27; “go astray” - Rom 3.12; Prov 5.23
 - g. “lose/forsake” [the way] – Jer 9.13; 2.13
 - h. “backslide” – Isa 57.17; Jer 9.5
 - i. “swerve/depart” – 1Tim 6.21; wander away (Ps 119.10; 2Tim 4.4); forsake (Josh 24.16)
 - j. “run ahead” – 2Jn 9
 - k. “carried away” – 2Pet 3.17; “stumble” – Isa 3.8; Jer 18.15; Prov 4.16
 - l. “slipped” (Ps 17.5; 73.1); “[en]snare” (Jdg 8.27);
 - 2. Repentance = to turn around
- C. Right Way - Psa 27.11; Ps 119.35, 105; Prov 4.18; 10.17
John 14.6 - *“I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*

III – The Christian Life as Pilgrimage in Wilderness

Life in the Wilderness

- A. Pilgrims, who are Heavenly Citizens - Php 3.19-4.1; Col 3.1-4
- B. Pilgrims, who are “Set Apart” - Jn 15.19; 17.16-18; 1Pet 1.15; 1Jn 2.15; Jam 4.4
 - 1. Wrong views
 - a. “In the world and of the world”
 - b. “Not in the world, but of the world”
 - c. “Not in the world and not of the world”
 - 2. Right view
 - a. “In the world, but not of the world”
 - b. “This age” - Rom 12.1-2
- C. Pilgrims, who are a Spiritual People – 2Cor 10.3-5