

Sermon Outline and Discussion Guide for Adult Bible Study

March 2, 2014

Belgic Confession, Articles X (10) & XI (11)

The Blessedness of Those Who Believe

Luke 1:26-56

Intro: We have before us a very practical & spiritual episode in the lives of Mary and Elizabeth.

I. The Blessed Fellowship of Those Who Believe (Luke 1:41c-42)

“And Elizabeth was filled with the _____, and she exclaimed with a loud cry

“Blessed are you among _____, and blessed is the _____ of your womb!”

No one can say, “Jesus is the _____ except by the _____.”

Article XI The Holy Spirit is True and Eternal God.

The Holy Spirit from _____ proceeds from the Father and the _____ (felioque phrase).

The Holy Spirit is not _____, _____, nor _____, but only proceeds from _____;

Who in order is the _____ person of the Holy Trinity; of one and the same _____,

_____, and _____ with the Father and the Son; and therefore is _____ and _____

God, as the Holy Scriptures teach us.

DQ. How often do we waste precious worship time on irritants and petty resentments?

DQ. Discuss the importance of Spiritual Truth in practical situations in our own lives.

It would be most helpful if you could share an example from your own life.

II. The Blessed Profession Regarding the Deity of Christ (Luke 1:43-44).

“And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.”

Notice that Elizabeth calls Jesus her ‘Lord’ while he is still in his mother’s womb. For Elizabeth this was a clear and conscious reference to God and Savior.

Isaiah 9:6-7 _____

Article X Jesus Christ is True and Eternal God.

We believe that Jesus Christ according to His Divine Nature is the Only _____ Son of God, begotten from all eternity, not _____ nor _____ but _____ and _____

with the Father, the very _____ of His Substance and the _____ of His glory.

Genesis 1 / John 1 _____

Micah 5:2 _____

Hebrews 7 _____

DQ. What conclusions can we come to about the faith expectations of O.T. saints based on Elizabeth's exclamation?

DQ. When is the last time you've contemplated Elizabeth's question concerning yourself?

III. The Blessed Benediction Pronounced on All Who Believe the Christ.

"And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

DQ. Do we give each other this benediction often enough? If we did, what would it sound like?

DQ. Did it take Mary more faith than it takes us to believe that God's promises will be fulfilled?

DQ. Who is the author of our faith?

DQ. What could / should we do to strengthen our faith?