

That is not the Reformed Faith. But there are many who call themselves Reformed who talk as if that was what they believed. I believe such an attitude and such a statement is definitely harmful, and that there are people who react naturally against such a statement and such attitudes. I ~~(don't)~~ believe the Reformed Faith is taught in Scripture ~~(2)~~ but I believe it is easy to express it in such a way as to give a false impression and that is what the Westminster Confession would have done if it had stopped where I stopped reading (with "whatsoever comes to pass")...but it doesn't.

Let me read the whole section. God from all eternity did by the most wise and holy counsel of his own will, freely and unchangeably ordain whatsoever comes to pass: yet so as thereby neither is God the author of sin, nor is violence offered to the will of the creatures, nor is the liberty or contingency of second causes taken away, but rather established." There is no fatalism there. There is foreordination. There is divine sovereignty. But there is no fatalism. "Neither is God the author of sin, nor is violence offered to the will of the creatures, nor is the liberty or contingency of second causes taken away, but rather established."

When I first went to Palestine many years ago, I was told you can expect to become very nervous when you ride with some of these Arab drivers. Because they said these Arab drivers are Mohammedans, and Mohammedanism teaches fatalism. So these drivers say, God has ordained when I am going to be killed; He has ordained when I'm to die; He has ordained when I'll have an accident. Therefore there is no reason to worry about it. Rush around the corner, drive around these hairpin curves fast as you like. If somebody comes around the other side and hits you and you are killed, that's the time God has ordained! that you be killed! That is not the Reformed Faith. That is not Calvinism.