

That is Fatalism. The contingency of second causes is not denied -- the liberty or contingency of second causes is not taken away, but rather established.

Examination time is months ahead. Whether you pass or don't will be determined at that time. What is the use now of bothering to get things well in mind for that. If you are lazy or indifferent or if you are careless now there is a second cause which will produce a definite effect at that time. Because as the Confession says, "the liberty and contingency of second causes" is not taken away, but rather established.

So we believe that

~~some/people/think~~ the Reformed Faith means we can have absolute confidence that God has forordained all things. That they are for the best in accordance with His plan and purpose, but that it makes a tremendous difference what we do. That the liberty and contingency of second causes is not taken away, but rather established.

The Lord leaves us here in order to reach others with the message of Christ. He leaves us here in order to grow in grace through the experiences He causes us to have. He does not leave us here to argue about trying to explain how it could be that God has ordained all that comes to pass and yet the liberty or contingency of second causes is not thereby taken away, but rather is established. I believe it is very important we have this confidence in the sovereignty of God. That we have this understanding of what it means. That we believe this great teaching of Eph. 2:1-10, and we here at Biblical Seminary believe every word of that statement we read in the Scripture, in fact in the whole Scriptures. We believe the vital thing is that we take whatever is clear in Scripture and stand upon it, but that we do not tie up with it a lot of other things that are not so clear in the Scripture, but * rather that we study those things in the Scripture