

where you are forbidden to preach the Gospel. Where the few churches that are allowed to continue are only allowed to sing hymns, but not allowed to have any preaching. Where any personal work would be forbidden and result in imprisonment.

It is no goodness of yours that you were born in America instead of in countries where the gospel has never yet reached, where there is no preaching of the Gospel.

It is no goodness of yours that you came in contact with people who knew the Bible and knew the grace of God, and came to know about Christ. It is no goodness of yours that you were brought into a situation where you believed in Christ as Saviour. It is God's marvelous grace working with those whom he has predestined from all eternity that He should make them into the image of Christ and that he should have fellowship with them through all eternity, as his redeemed ones who will sing his praises and rejoice in the presence of God through all eternity.

When Peter saw Jesus walking on the water, Peter said to Jesus Call me to you that I may walk on the water too. Jesus said, Come. And Peter stepped out of the boat and walked toward Jesus. Then he looked at the water. He saw it tempestuous underneath. He saw the water there as each of us sees conditions around us that would lead us into sin.

As each of us sees conditions in our hearts that would lead us into sin and each of us finds impulses that are difficult to resist leading us to sin--Peter looked and he began to sink. And Jesus reached out his hand, took hold of Peter and brought him back into the boat.

God in his marvelous grace has chosen whom he would bring into contact with the gospel, ~~whom~~ whom he would lead to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom he would give eternal life that he might be His through all eternity.

Through the grace of Christ alone and not through any power or goodness of ourselves we can go on to live lives that are worthwhile. But how ~~xxxx~~ terrible it is when Satan leads people instead of rejoicing in the great teachings of grace, rejoicing in these and seeking to be God's instrument in helping others to come to hear of Christ and to grow in grace and in the knowledge of Christ, make them into matters of argument and divide churches over, and to cause discension and misery among Christians.

May God enable us to be a blessing and an encouragement == and encouraged from these marvelous doctrines of the Reformed Faith, but may he enable us to realize that our lives are meant to be spent not arguing about theological doctrines but serving Christ and winning souls to know him as Saviour and to be his instruments that they also may be his instruments of His grace.

Our Father we thank you for the marvelous teachings of your word. We thank you for the Reformed teaching that it is all of grace --it is God's grace and he controls all things. We thank you that your word teaches that you permit second causes; that you use second