

each other, and they have to reach the conclusion that there are hidden laws which we have not yet discovered because we will discover them some time!

It's like the claim for the theory of evolution: there are thousands of animals and plants of which we find fossils. But a gradual development from one kind to an entirely different kind has never been discovered. But of course we must assume that there must have been such a thing even though there is no evidence anywhere. I think about half of the biological scientists are clinging to that rather foolish hypothesis. The other half are saying that the change from a seppent to a bird came about in one generation so suddenly that naturally it would leave no trace! That's the difference between what is called macro evolution and micro evolution. But both rest purely upon assumptions and hypothesis.

There is much in the universe that we do not understand, and we do not understand how it is that God has foreordained everything that comes to pass, and yet what we do and _____ and how we act is tremendously important. The Westminster Confession has a stress of both sides of this very clearly. Where it says in ch. 3, the first sec., "God from all eternity did by the most wise and holy counsel of his own will freely and unchangeably foreordain 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 and contingency of second causes taken away but rather established."

There you have two sides to the situation. Clearly stated they are both true. They are either stated-- both stated or clearly implied in the Bible. We do not understand how they fit together, but we do not understand it aright if we do not recognize both of them.

One of Satan's greatest successes is to make this great truth a matter of argument instead of a matter of encouragement and blessing. All who have received Christ into their hearts are saved and saved forever whatever they may think about it. That is a fact. It is a fact that all that happens has been ordained of God. But it is not God's will that this should be the prime element in our preaching. It is His will that our preaching should be reaching souls for Christ and teaching individuals how to grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord.

I believe the wide-spread hatred you find to Calvinism in many quarters is actually due to a wide misunderstanding. There are those who make it a matter not of comfort and blessing but a matter of argument and controversy. Many of them actually present what is a travesty or parody of Christian teaching. It might not be so if their words were carefully examined.