

Opening Remarks:

Observations Regarding Christ as the Focus of the Church:

Observation 1: God in his divine essence is vastly incomprehensible to the finite being of man.

Observation 2: This reality being sound, men are therefore without the knowledge of God in the absoluteness of his being.

Observation 3: Man is now fully dependent on God to make himself known which he does by way of representation.

Observation 4: Though man has rightly presumed that God must make himself known in order to be known, he has forgotten that he is limited in his true knowledge of God to those representations alone that God has seen fit to make of himself.

Observation 5: Man being unsatisfied with the representation God has been pleased to make of himself, has himself chosen to make his own representations of the deity and worship God after the devices and determinations of his own imagination.

Observation 6: Thus man finds himself shut off from the true knowledge of God - having that knowledge which he in fact did possess taken away from him - and is now shut up to the ignorance and folly of his own darkened imagination.

Observation 7: It is at this point in the history of the world and experientially in the history of our own lives that God sets forth the final and full representation of his glory in the sending forth of his son Jesus Christ.

Observation 8: The wisdom, power, and joy of the church herein is to restrict herself corporately and personally to this representation of the glory of God that she has been given alone in the face of Christ.

Observation 9: This glory of God which we behold in the face of Christ is made manifest to the church by a very limited number of means - principally one - the Scripture alone.

Thoughts on Scripture as the Principle Means of the Revelation of Christ:

§The Christocentric Nature of Scripture

§The Unwillingness of the Church to Mark this Truth

§An Illustration from the Church of Old

§A Warning for the Contemporary Church