

Pastor's Nickel

PASTOR'S NICKEL – REFORMATION OF OUR HEARTS



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In his course outline *Theologica Pietatis*, Philip Holtrop identifies no less than 10 different expressions of Reformed theological emphases. From Trinitarian to Dutch Neo-Calvinism to the Pietistic tradition. And over the years each successive generation has expressed these ideals in different ways and with different emphasis. At the root of Reformed thought, though, is a desire to return to what Christ is calling us to be, to return to our first love, to understand faith as not simply a thing to do on a Sunday morning, but a way of life. Personally that means a daily reformation of my heart. I seek to know Christ and in knowing him to know who I am and how to live in a way that honours Christ that also leads me into a life that fills me with health and joy. And from that personal piety (love and reverence for God) I learn to be a kingdom builder working together with other followers of Christ to work in partnership with God to transform the world to the glory of his holy name. That sounds intimidating, but after all, Christ's call to his church is not just to work for reformation of those in the church but the whole of the world (Isaiah 49:6; Matthew 28:18-20). That's my nickel. Pastor Bob