

For those who wish to read only the sixteen sermons on the Ten Commandments in English, the Center owns the 1579 and 1581 London editions printed by Thomas Dawson at the Three Cranes of

the Vinetree for Thomas Woodcocke. The Englishman who first translated the sermons (pictured above) into English was John Harmar (ca. 1555-1613). Harmar was educated at Winchester College and New College, Oxford under the patronage of Robert Dudley, 1st Earl of Leicester. As a young man, Harmar visited Geneva and knew Theodore Beza. He held several professorships and was honored for his role as one of the translators of the 1611 Authorized Version of the Bible (the King James Bible).

It is interesting to note that the dedication of this 1579 volume is to Harmar's patron "Right excellent and Honourable Lorde, the Lorde Robert Dudley, Earl of Leycester, Baron of Denbigh, Knight of the most Noble Order of the Garter..."

In 1980 Benjamin W. Farley edited, translated, and published through Baker Book House John Calvin's Sermons on the Ten Commandments.

In addition to studying the sermons themselves, comparing the translations made from the 16th through the 20th centuries would make an interesting project.

New Books & Articles

Essary, Kirk. *Erasmus and Calvin on the Foolishness of God: Reason and Emotion in the Christian Philosophy*. Erasmus Studies. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2017.

Mazaheri, J. H. *Calvin's Interpretation of "The Lord's Prayer": A Rhetorical Approach*. Etudes Littéraires Françaises Vol. 78. Tübingen: Narr Francke Attempto, 2017.

Manetsch, Scott. "Discipline and Ignorance in Calvin's Geneva." *Unio Cum Christo* 3, no. 2 (2017): 103-117.

Topping, Richard. "John Calvin and the Image of God: Creation, Regeneration, Remnants, and Rights." *Touchstone* 34, no. 1 (2016): 7-14.

Park, Jae-Eun. "John Calvin's *Psychopannychia* in Light of the Kingdom of God." *Sinhak Chinam* 331 (2017): 185-216.

Calvin Courier

H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies

Reformation, Research, Teaching, Community Outreach



Spring 2018, Number 61

Dr. Tuininga's Meeter Center Spring Lecture on Calvin's Political Theology

By Laura Beer, Meeter Center Program Coordinator

This year's Meeter Center Spring Lecture featured a book launch for Calvin Seminary Professor Matthew Tuininga. Over eighty community members, students, and faculty gathered in the Calvin Seminary Auditorium to hear Dr. Tuininga share insights from his new book, published last year with Cambridge University Press: *Calvin's Political Theology and the Public Engagement of the Church: Christ's Two Kingdoms*.

Tuininga emphasized three themes from his book that maintain the relevance and originality of John Calvin's political theology. First, Calvin's political theology was unique in its own day, marking the defining conflicts of Calvin's time in Geneva. Walking a middle path between the Catholic view that the church joins the state in taking disciplinary action and other Protestants' more separatist views, Calvin believed that the kingdom of God needed concrete



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From the Director

After the rather hectic pace of 2017 and the various events commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, it is good to get to a new and slightly calmer year! We look forward to welcoming seven visiting scholars in 2018, coming from South Africa, China, Japan, the Netherlands, and the United States. See p. 3 for the list of this year's fellowship recipients and their research topics. We will also welcome participants in our tenth biennial Genevan Paleography workshop in July – see p. 3 for the list of participants and their institutions. We are deeply grateful to the Sixteenth Century Society and Conference and to the Friends of the Meeter Center for underwriting the costs of this workshop.

We are also making plans to mark the 400th anniversary of the Synod of Dordt (1618-19) with a two-day conference to be held at Calvin Theological Seminary on September 14th and 15th, 2018. See p. 2 for details on registration. The conference is geared toward those wanting to know more about the Synod and its significance, including students, pastors, and members of the general public. Presentation topics include the political and religious context that led to the Synod, the roots of the Arminian perspective, the music played at the Synod (with performance on the Seminary organ!), the theology and church polity that emerged from the Synod, and a special presentation and exhibit focusing on the 1637 Staten Bijbel, the Synod-authorized Dutch translation of the Bible based on the original biblical languages.

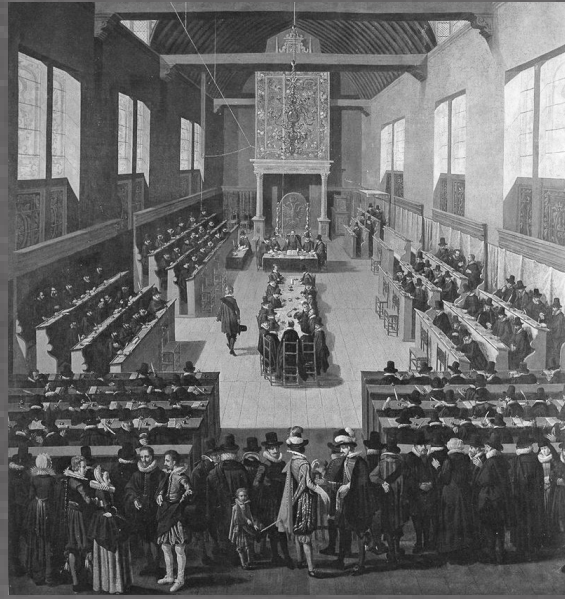
As we continue to serve scholars, students, and community members who seek to learn more about John Calvin, Calvinism, and the Reformation, we warmly invite you to join us, by attending our various lectures, conferences, and events, and also by providing financial support for our work. Please see p. 2 to find out more about ways you can help the Meeter Center continue in this important task.

Karin Maag

The H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies
1855 Knollcrest Circle SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546-4402

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September Conference Commemorating the 400th Anniversary of the Synod of Dort: September 14 and 15, 2018



Located at Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, MI
Registration Fee (includes refreshments and Friday dinner): \$25

To register, please see this website: <https://calvin.edu/centers-institutes/meeter-center/synod-of-dort-conference/>

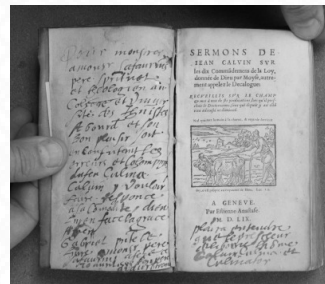
Conference lecturers, panelists, and organists include:

- ~Randy Engle, Pastor, North Hills CRC
- ~Paul Fields, Calvin College
- ~Karin Maag, Calvin College
- ~Suzanne McDonald, Western Theological Seminary
- ~Donald Sinnema, Emeritus, Trinity Christian College
- ~Keith Stanglin, Austin Graduate School of Theology
- ~Fred Van Lieburg, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Rare Book Spotlight

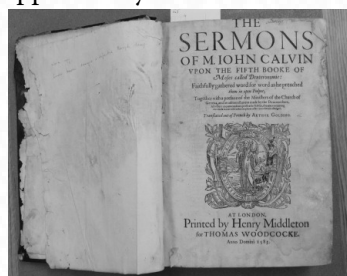
By Paul Fields, Meeter Center Curator

In 1557, Conrad Badius printed the first edition of Calvin's sixteen sermons on the Ten Commandments. In 1558 he printed them again with two additional sermons on idols and idolatry. In 1559 Estienne Anastaise reprinted the same work. It is this 1559 volume which the Meeter Center owns (pictured on the right: *Sermons de Jean Calvin sur les dix commademens de la Loy, donné de Dieu par Moysé, autrement appelez le Decalogue*, Geneva: Estienne Anastaise, 1559).



How Anastaise came to have an interest in this work is unknown. He was a French refugee in Geneva who in 1559 married Catherine Estienne, a daughter of Robert Estienne. Robert was a well-known French refugee and printer in Geneva who had been a printer for the King of France but now as a Protestant printed many of Calvin's works. As a side note, the marriage ceremony involved a double wedding with Anastaise's brother, who also married a daughter of Robert Estienne. The officiating pastor was Pierre Viret. Little is known about Anastaise's printing business. According to Rodolphe Peter (vol. 2, p. 721) there is some thought that this particular publication was not approved by Badius.

It would seem that there was a fair amount of interest in these sermons because in 1567 Thomas Corteau printed Calvin's 200 sermons on Deuteronomy, of which the sixteen sermons on the commandments are reprinted word for word. The Center owns this work as well as the 1583 English translation of this entire set of sermons on Deuteronomy (the latter is pictured above). These were printed by Henry Middleton for Thomas Woodcocke and translated out of the French by Arthur Golding.



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Renew Your Friends Membership

We welcome members to the Friends of the Meeter Center. Friends' donations help provide funding for special programs, including fellowships, workshops, and community educational events.

Student	\$25	Advocate	\$500
Supporter	\$50	Partner	\$1000
Donor	\$100	Benefactor	\$5000

Donate to our Endowment or Rare Book Fund

Currently the Meeter Center owns approximately half of Calvin's works in original editions, and we expand our offerings each year. Donations to the Rare Book fund are used exclusively for adding rare books to the collection. Endowment Fund donations are also welcomed. We have a \$5 million endowment goal and are over a quarter of the way there, thanks to your generosity!

Donation checks may be made out to "Calvin College Meeter Center" and sent to 1855 Knollcrest Circle SE, Grand Rapids MI 49546. Thank you!

Dr. Tuininga..., continued from page 1

expression in the social world. He insisted, for example, on specific areas of church discipline as well as a diaconate that was geared toward taking care of the poor. Secondly, Calvin's political theology of two kingdoms is a theology rather than a political theory or social theory. Instead of simply dividing life into categories, Calvin's two kingdoms theology describes the difference between temporal political systems of this age and the spiritual kingdom yet to come with Christ's return. Until the day when the spiritual kingdom arrives and transforms everything, the church represents the primary way that the spiritual kingdom "breaks through" to the current age. Calvin's theology invites Christians to witness to the "not yet" by seeking the spiritual kingdom to come, while committing themselves to the "already" by suffering and serving in a fallen world. Third, Calvin's political theology interacts with political theories in unique ways. He emphasizes the role of the law in seeking spiritual righteousness versus civil righteousness, rejects simplistic biblicism in favor of reason-based argument, and discusses the limits of the law resulting from the hardness of human hearts. Tuininga concluded his lecture by reiterating that Calvin's political theology advocates witnessing to Christ's kingdom in all areas of life, keeping in mind that we live in a fallen world.

A question and answer session followed Tuininga's lecture, in which some of his ideas were fleshed out more specifically in relation to contemporary political concerns. Asked about Calvin's view of social justice and advocacy, Tuininga described Calvin as moderate. Calvin wouldn't advocate throwing off political authority simply in the name of spiritual freedom, but he also believed that we are always seeking greater manifestation of the spiritual kingdom and should not give up on that goal. In response to another question about Calvin's relation to his contemporaries' views of the church's social involvement, Tuininga clarified that Calvin asserted that as we teach the word of God we are using Christ's authority, but when we go beyond that we are speaking as humans. Another question led Tuininga to speculate in relation to today's moral concerns that Calvin would encourage tolerating spiritual sin but would not advocate allowing sin to be endorsed explicitly by law.

Calvin's Political Theology and the Public Engagement of the Church: Christ's Two Kingdoms is available on Amazon for paperback pre-order, \$36.33 per copy.

To view Tuininga's entire lecture, visit <https://calvin.edu/centers-institutes/meeter-center/resources/media/>

Summer French Paleography Workshop

This summer the Meeter Center will again convene its biennial two-week French Paleography Workshop, designed to train students and scholars to read and interpret 16th-century French manuscripts. Those selected for the course include:

- ~Haley Bowen, Ph.D. student at University of Michigan
- ~Katherine Goodwin, M.A. student at Wheaton College
- ~Pierrick Hildebrand, Ph.D. student at Universität Zürich
- ~Benjamin Ransom, Ph.D. student at the University of Chicago
- ~Robin Turner, M.A. student at the University of Alabama

Fellowship and Scholarship Awards

Every year, the Meeter Center offers fellowships for graduate students, faculty, and pastors, with awards of \$2,000-4,000. We also offer scholarships for high school seniors, with one 1st place award of \$3,500 and three 2nd place awards of \$2,000 to be applied to college tuition at one of six specific colleges. For more information on how to apply for fellowships and scholarships, see <http://www.calvin.edu/meeter/new/fellowships-and-scholarships.htm>

This year's high school award recipients:

1st place:

Erica Kath, Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada

2nd place:

Cambrie Ballast, Byron Center, MI
Hannah Gaffner, Hudsonville, MI
Ben Van Haitsma, Olympia, WA

Fellowship recipients for 2018-2019:

Meeter Family Fellowship:

Dr. Stéphan Van Der Watt, Full-time Lecturer in Pastoral Theology and Care at Kobe Reformed Theological Seminary, will research the relevance of Martin Bucer and John Calvin's pastoral ethos and missional pathos for training Japan's pastors today.

Faculty Fellowship:

Dr. Steven Duby, Assistant Professor of Theology at Grand Canyon University, will study early Reformed writers' Christian practices of reasoning about God.

Friends Fellowships:

Zhengfei Wang, Editor of *Religion and Rule of Law* at Pu Shi Institute for Social Sciences, will research John Calvin on natural law and covenant theology.

Janine Williams, Pastor of The Uniting Reformed Church in South Africa, will focus on "Beauty and Brokenness? The image of God according to John Calvin."

Student Fellowships:

Peter Gorter, Ph.D. Candidate at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, will explore the influence of Reformed migrant communities on the imperial cities of the Holy Roman Empire.

Joshua Schendel, Ph.D. Candidate at Saint Louis University, will research William Twisse and the nature of the necessity of the atonement of Christ.

Emo F. J. Van Halsema Fellowship:

Benjamin Phillips, Rector at St. George's Episcopal Church, will trace the Reformed doctrine of election's role in confessions through the 16th and 17th centuries.