

Summary of Calvin's Achievements



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- Calvin produced a great *number* of important writings during his second period in Geneva.
 - He continued to revise and enlarge *the Institutes* until it reached its final form in 1559.
 - He wrote the *Genevan Catechism of 1541*, a catechism for the Church in Geneva, which had great influence over other Reformed catechisms.
 - Calvin wrote commentaries on 24 of the 39 books of the OT and 24 of the 27 books of the NT.
 - Many of his sermons, too, were written down by a secretary as Calvin preached them, and were then published, with the result that we sometimes have both a commentary and a series of sermons by Calvin on the same books of the Bible.
 - He also produced a host of writings against the various enemies of the Reformed faith.

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- Calvin's work was done against a background of chronic ill-health:
 - Arthritis
 - Migraine headaches
 - Bleeding from the stomach
 - Bowel disorders, hemorrhoids
 - Inflamed kidneys and kidney stones
 - Fever
 - Muscle cramps
 - Gout
- Yet this sick man achieved more in one lifetime than most healthy people could encompass in a hundred.

Summary of Calvin's Achievements

- Calvin provided the Reformed Churches with a clear, deep, solid theology.
- Calvin gave the Reformed movement a pattern of Church government which mobilized the laity and enabled Reformed believers to survive, organize, and flourish despite state opposition and persecution.
- He showed the world a city – Geneva – which embodied the Reformed faith and lived it out. The infectious power of Geneva's example inspired others to reform their communities as Calvin had reformed his.

Summary of Calvin's Achievements

- Calvin fashioned the Reformed faith into an international movement, with a sense of brotherhood which crossed national boundaries. From Geneva, Calvin kept up a vast correspondence with Reformed leaders throughout Europe, advising, encouraging, exhorting, rebuking.
- He made the Reformed faith into the great Protestant “missionary” movement of the 16th century. Geneva was an international training center for Reformed pastors, preachers, theologians and missionaries.
- The Genevan Academy, founded by Calvin in 1559 and headed by the psalm-translator Theodore Beza (who was also a distinguished theologian), attracted students from all over Europe.
- The Academy began with 162 students; within six years, the number had rocketed to more like 1,600.

Guest Speaker!

**Sermon text:
2 Timothy 1:8-9**