

further beyond was in drawing ~~keynote~~ conclusions beyond what C^o taught, or beyond what the Scripture makes clear. And when we do that there are two great dangers; one is that we may simply be guessing, and that we may be labeling our guesses as truth, but, more important than that, ~~that~~ that we may make guesses which deny or cast aside something that is definitely taught in the Scripture. The attitude which Gomar, falsely I would say, called ~~"superlapsarianism"~~ "superlapsarian," the idea was/that God has established everything as it is, and therefore is responsible for everything that is in the world. Now the Bible clearly teaches the sovereignty of God, but it equally clearly teaches that God is not the author of evil, nor the cause of sin. God permits ^a man to falter; God permits man to sin. God never causes a man to sin. And God never rejoices when man sins. God is grieved when man sins, and God truly sorrows at man's sin, and truly desires that man should repent and turn from his sin. This is very clearly taught in the Scripture and has been held by most students of the Bible who ~~however~~ have not in some way twisted teaching out of proportion. Well now whether Gomar actually believed that God created the wicked for His own glory, in order that He might glorify Himself by punishing them eternally in hell or not, I would have to investigate his writings more than I have to ~~say~~ say, but we can say definitely that there are those who follow him, and there have been, who have held such a view, a definitely unScriptural unscriptural ~~firm~~ view, and one which has done much to drive people away from accepting the great teachings of Calvin. I was greatly shocked two years ago when a very fine man, a man for whom I had very high regard. and most of whose teachings are excellent, gave evidence of having been affected on this particular point in a talk that he gave in an evening meeting here in the Seminary, when he said words just about like this: "The wicked will fry in hell through all eternity to the greater glory of God." Well now the impression which someone might have gotten from that was that God created the wicked in order that they might suffer eternally to the greater glory of God, and there is no such teaching anywhere in Scripture. Sin is a terrible thing which God must punish. He could ~~not~~ not be a holy God if He