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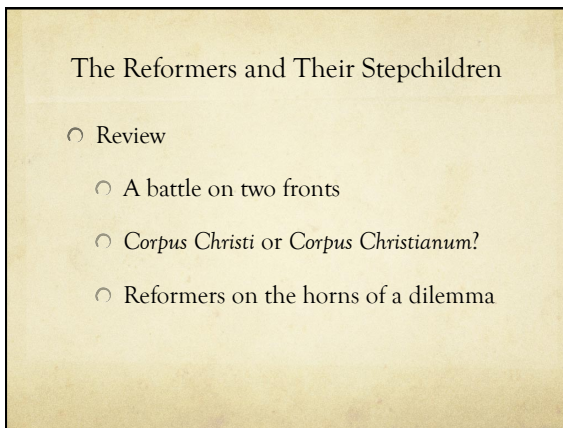
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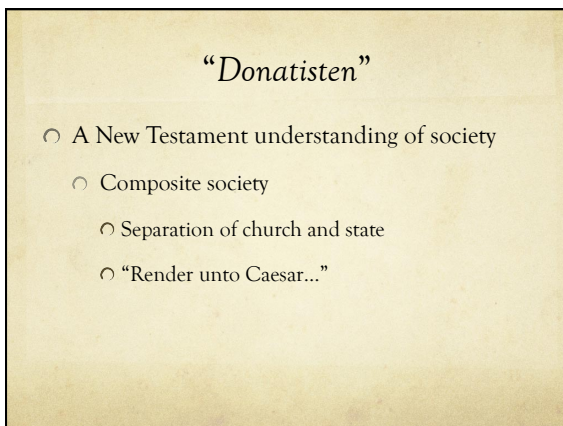
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### “Donatisten” (Continued)

*“The New Testament envisions no trouble in the outworking of this division of labor – as long as both sides play in the register intended for them; it envisions trouble only if and when either of the two goes outside its province... The New Testament vision implies that as long as Church and State weed each in its own garden there will be a tolerable modus vivendi [way of living].”*

- Verduin

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### “Donatisten” (Continued)

- Sacral society
  - Characteristic of all pre-Christian societies
    - Babylon
    - Ephesus
    - Israel
    - Rome

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### “Donatisten” (Continued)

*“...the state is seen as purely secular and is intended, by God Himself, to regulate as best it can, with the insights available to it and with the resources at its command, the things of this age. It is implied in the New Testament vision that the State, being itself a creature of God’s common grace, works with the resources which that non-redemptive grace makes available. It is implied in the New Testament vision that Christianity is not a culture-creating thing but rather a culture-influencing one.”*

- Verduin

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### “Donatisten” (Continued)

- Sacral society (Continued)
  - Roman sacralism led to Christian persecution
    - Christian response to early persecution by the Roman state

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### “Donatisten” (Continued)

*“It is significant that the early Christians did not launch a crusade to have this object ousted and a new and better object, the God of the Scriptures, put in its place. It was content to worship the Christian God in an off-the-street place and to ignore the object that stood in a place where none belongs, being careful that no one would have reason to complain that by so worshipping at an esoteric shrine the Christians were drawing themselves away from the affairs of Roman life.”*

- Verduin

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### “Donatisten” (Continued)

- Sacral society (Continued)
  - *The Epistle of Diognetus*
- The New Testament societal balance
  - The Roman *Idolothya*
    - 1 Corinthians 8

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*“Donatisten”* (Continued)

- NT societal balance (Continued)
- Equal treatment/recognition?
- Whose brand of Christianity?

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Questions?

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