

The H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies

Research Guide

117 J 10/100
SERMONS
of *M. Iohn Caluine*,
vpon the, X. Commande-
mentes of the Lawe, given of
God by Moses, otherwise
called the Decalogue.

Gathered word for word, pre-
sently at his Sermons, when he
preached on Deuteronomie, without
adding vnto, or diminishing
from them any thing af-
terward.

Translated out of Frenche
into English, by T. B.

Printed at Lon-
don, by Thomas Wood-
cocke, 1579.

Calvin *Calvinus*

J. CALVYN
INSTITUTIO
DEI RELIGIE

CALVINVS
INSTITVTI

The H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies

Research Guide

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Isaac Calvin". The word "Isaac" is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end of the 's'. The word "Calvin" is also in cursive, with a large, sweeping 'C' at the beginning.

September 2003

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THE STORY OF THE H. HENRY MEETER CENTER

The H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies began with a collection of important books and a bibliography by Calvin College professor Dr. H. Henry Meeter during his tenure of teaching in the Bible (now Religion and Theology) Department from 1927 to 1957. At the initiative of Dr. Meeter, Calvin College and Seminary established the Committee for Scholarly Research and Development of Basic Historic Calvinism in 1961. This Committee was the genesis of the H. Henry Meeter Center and its governing board.

The primary goal of Dr. Meeter was to make scholarly research on Calvinism available to students and laypeople. This goal was articulated and achieved in his classic 1939 work, *Basic Ideas of Calvinism*. Published by Baker Book House, the book is now in its sixth edition and has been translated into five languages: Dutch, Korean, Japanese, Spanish, and Russian.

The need for space for the growing collection of materials on Calvin and Calvinism was recognized and supported by Dr. Meeter's son Hugh and daughter-in-law Eve Meeter of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and by the Pew Foundation who made possible the 1981–1982 construction of the H. Henry Meeter Center and Heritage Hall as a wing of the Calvin College and Seminary Library.



The Hugh and Eve Meeter Calvinism Awards for High School Seniors were established in 1993 by Hugh and Eve Meeter to stimulate an interest in and a knowledge of the Calvinistic world-and-life view among high school seniors.

Today the Meeter Center with its rare items, books, articles, literature, and bibliographies is acclaimed worldwide as one of the most extensive and user-friendly of all Calvin and Calvinism collections.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Hekman Library Hours

ACADEMIC YEAR

Monday–Thursday	8:00 a.m. – 12 midnight
Friday	8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

SUMMER HOURS

Monday–Thursday	8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Friday	8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The Meeter Center Hours

ACADEMIC YEAR

Monday–Friday	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Closed between 12 noon and 1:00 p.m.	
Saturday	1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

SUMMER HOURS

Monday–Friday	8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Closed between 12 noon and 12:30 p.m.	
Closed on Saturday	

To Contact the Meeter Center:

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

Phone: 616-526-7081

Fax: 616-526-6470

E-mail: meeter@calvin.edu

Web: www.calvin.edu/meeter

Location and Access

The Meeter Center is located on the fourth floor of the Hekman Library, providing easy access to the College and Seminary's general collection. Housing more than 700,000 books and periodicals on open shelving, the Hekman Library provides an important collateral collection for scholars pursuing research in the Meeter Center. Together, the Meeter Center and the Hekman Library offer scholars an impressive array of primary and secondary materials in a variety of formats. The descriptions that follow indicate highlights of the collections and make no claim to be comprehensive. To discover the full extent of our materials, interested scholars can access the library catalog via our Web site. The Hekman Library's homepage address is (www.calvin.edu/library).

From the Hekman Library's homepage, the Meeter Center's homepage may be accessed on the left side of the screen or by using the Meeter Center Web site (www.calvin.edu/meeter).



PRINT RESOURCES

Books, Series, Journals, Dissertations, and Scholars' Papers

The Meeter Center's growing collection of approximately 5,000 monographs and volumes of essays on Calvin, Calvinism, and the Reformation is complemented by the Hekman Library's collections in Reformation theology and sixteenth-century history, particularly for The Netherlands, Switzerland, and Geneva. As well as published works, the Meeter Center has acquired a number of masters theses and doctoral dissertations on Calvin and Calvinism. The library continues to purchase up-to-date monographs and series, including *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Thought*, *Travaux d'humanisme et renaissance*, and *St Andrews Studies in Reformation History*. The Hekman Library has a fine collection of older works on the Reformation in Dutch, French, and German. Examples of older secondary sources available in the Meeter Center include Charles Borgeaud's *Histoire de l'Université de Genève* and Emile Doumergue's complete *Jean Calvin: Les hommes et les choses de son temps*.



The Hekman Library currently subscribes to 2,745 periodicals, including 476 theology-related journals and 170 history-related journals. Many of the holdings in French, German, and Dutch periodicals are complete. The Meeter Center itself possesses a set of the *Bulletin de la Société de l'histoire du protestantisme français* from its appearance in 1853 to 1969. The Hekman Library holds a full set from 1853 to the present.

S V P P L I C A

TION ET REMONSTRAN-
CE, SVRIE (FAICT DE LA CHRE-
STIENTE, ET DE LA REFORMATI-
ON de l'Eglise, faicte au nom de tous amateurs du
Regne de Iesu Christ, a l'Empereur, & aux Princes
& estatz tenans maintenant iournée imperiale a
Spire.



Preffa ualentior.

1 5 4 4.

The Meeter Center is the repository for the papers of Ford Lewis Battles and John T. McNeill. These papers constitute an extensive archive of letters, class notes, and drafts of their scholarly research on the history of Christian thought in general and on John Calvin in particular. Scholars who have particular interests should make arrangements in advance for using these papers. The staff of the Meeter Center can provide further information about these resources.

Bibliographical information on the monographs, theses, volumes of essays, and journal holdings in the Hekman Library and the Meeter Center is accessible through the on-line library catalog (WebCat). Works held in the Meeter Center appear with the designation “Meeter Center” before the call number. The Meeter Center collection does not circulate.

The Calvinism Resources Database (CARD)

The Calvinism Resources Database is a growing repository of articles, book reviews, and unpublished papers in a variety of languages. There are currently some 18,000 articles on Calvin and historic Calvinism in the file. All

items are kept in manila folders labeled with large legible tabs and arranged alphabetically by author in the Meeter Center. Each item's complete bibliographic citation appears in the on-line library catalog. To search the article file by author, title, or subject, select Meeter Center under “Special Collections” on the main menu of the on-line library catalog, and then click on Calvinism Resources Database.

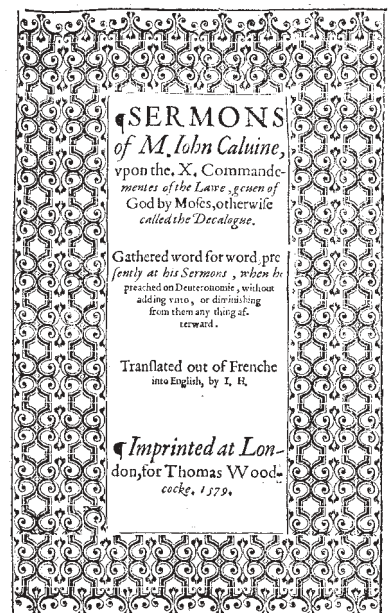
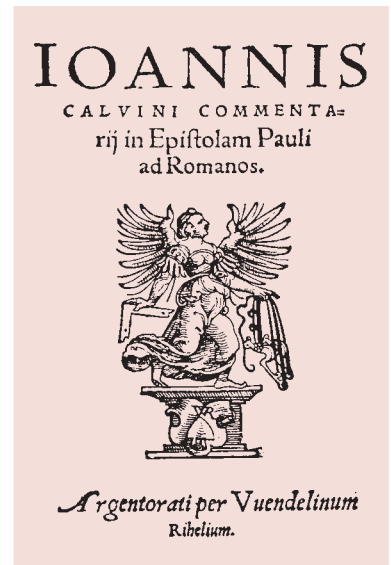
Reference Works

The holdings of the Hekman Library in bibliographical and biographical reference materials are particularly strong. In addition to Mansell (*NUC*) there are the general catalogs of the British Museum, the Bibliothèque Nationale of Paris, and the Bibliothèque Publique of Geneva. The library holds some fifty catalogs of smaller European and North American libraries as well as all the standard bibliographies of incunabula and sixteenth- and seventeenth-century books such as the *Nederlandsche Bibliographie van 1500 tot 1540*, the *Short Title Catalogue (STC)*, and the *Bibliotheca Bibliographica Aureliana*. Major French, German, Dutch, and Swiss biographical dictionaries are available as well as a full run of *Historical Abstracts* in paper and on CD-ROM. Shelves in the Meeter Center are sources relating to Calvin's printers and Reformation printing more generally.

Modern Critical Editions

The Hekman Library possesses a strong collection of works by fifteenth- and sixteenth-century figures, including the *Opera* of Luther, Melancthon, Zwingli, Bucer, Ficino, Campanella, and Osiander, in the standard editions. These are complemented by critical editions of patristic and medieval sources including the two patrologies of Migne (on microcard), the *Corpus Christianorum* (both the *Series Latina* and the *Continuatio Mediaevalis*), and the *Corpus Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum Latinorum*. The library also owns many complete collected works of Protestant continental theologians from the seventeenth through the nineteenth century, such as Turretin, Voetius, and Baxter.

Calvin's works are available in modern translations as well as the critical editions. For example, the Meeter Center has copies of the *Corpus Reformatorum (CO)*, the *Ioannis Calvin Opera Omnia*, and the *Supplementa Calviniana*. Other sources intended to facilitate research into the Genevan context of Calvin and his successors' work include the *Registres de la Compagnie des Pasteurs* from 1546 onwards, the *Registres du Conseil de Genève* from 1409–1536, and the volumes of the *Registres du Consistoire de Genève* as they appear. Collections of published correspondence available in the Meeter Center include Herminjard's *Correspondance des Réformateurs* and the ongoing publication of *Correspondance de Théodore de Bèze*. Calvin's *Institutes* are available in numerous editions, reprints, and translations, including, for example, Korean and Russian translations.



Rare Books



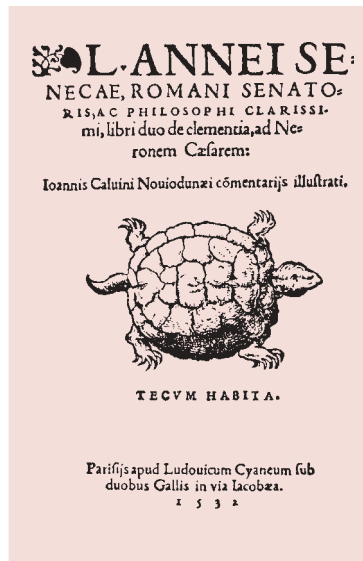
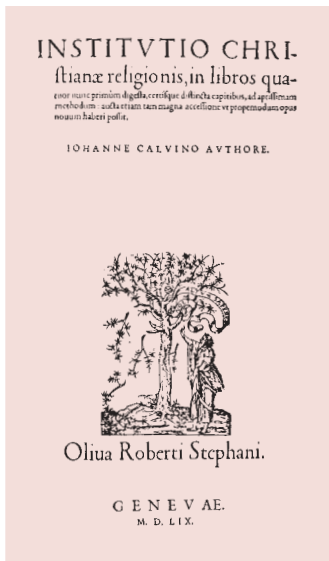
The Meeter Center provides scholars with access to essential primary sources for research in Calvinism and Reformation history. One of the highlights is its collection of early printed books. The rare book room contains hundreds of books in early editions by Calvin and other Reformers.

Among the early editions of Calvin's works, the Center has the 1532 *Libri duo de clementia*, the Latin *Institutio* of 1550 and 1559, and the French *Institution* of 1554 and 1560.

The collection includes Calvin's Old Testament commentaries in Latin on the Pentateuch, Joshua, the Psalms, Isaiah, Jeremiah and Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel, and the Minor Prophets, all printed between 1551 and 1575. Also available are Calvin's French New Testament commentaries on John and the Harmony of the Gospels; his Latin commentaries on Acts, the New Testament Letters, Romans, Titus,



and Hebrews; and English translations of his commentaries on Corinthians and Galatians. A number of Calvin's sermons, tracts, and treatises, as well as early works by other Reformers such as Beza, are held by the Meeter Center. Seventeenth-century printings are kept in this room as is the collection of sixteenth- and seventeenth-century imprints of anti-Calvin treatises. Finally, the Center has a number of important Bibles relating to the sixteenth century.



MICROFORMS AND DIGITAL RESOURCES

The Meeter Center and Hekman Library have strong and growing collections of primary sources available in various formats. Scholars pursuing research at the Meeter Center have access beyond the book collections of the Center and Hekman Library to the following vast amount of printed sources on microcards, CD-ROM, microfiche, and microfilm.

The Meeter Center is also the unique repository of several very significant collections of manuscripts on microfilm. They were acquired from their original locations in Geneva, Paris, and Zurich. While some require considerable paleographical experience to read, others are in the hands of copyists and are easily legible. They are in positive copies and are all of high photographic quality. See: Reformation-Related Works, Manuscripts on microfilm.

Early Church Writings

1. Migne's two patrologies on microcard
2. The *Patrologia Latina Database*
3. The *CETEDOC Library of Christian Latin Texts (CLCLT)* on CD-ROM
4. The *Corpus Christianorum. Continuatio Mediaevalis*

Reformation-Related Works

A. Printed Works on Microfilm/Microfiche

1. *Alma Collection*
The Center has 250 microfilmed works by sixteenth-century German humanists and theologians that are searchable on-site through a paper index alphabetized by author.
2. *Dutch Pamphlets*
This collection contains all the pamphlets from 1486–1750 cataloged by W. P. C. Knuttel in chronological order in the Royal Library of The Hague in the last years of the nineteenth and early years of the twentieth century. IDC microfiche.
3. *Early English Books On-line (EEBO)*
This on-line database contains over 125,000 complete works for titles listed in Pollard and Redgrave's short-title catalogue (1475–1640), Wing's short-title catalogue (1641–1700), and The Thomason Tracts (1640–1660).
4. *Early Printed Bibles*
This collection of Bible translations dates from the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. IDC microfiche.
5. *Lutheran Reformation Sources 1500–1650*
This is a collection of sources on the Lutheran Reformation that provides access to the most important published works that are not available in modern critical editions. IDC microfiche.
6. *Philipp Melancthon, Theologian and Humanist*
IDC microfiche.

7. *Reformed Protestantism*

These original sources dating from 1500–1700 include many of the key works of Reformed Protestantism. IDC microfiche.

- a. Geneva/Switzerland
- b. Strasbourg/France
- c. England
- d. East Friesland and northwest Germany

8. *The Anabaptist, Mennonite, and Spiritualist Reformation*
IDC microfiche.

9. *The Reformation in Heidelberg I and II*
IDC microfiche.

10. *The Works of Guy de Brès*
IDC microfiche.

11. *The Works of John Calvin*
IDC microfiche. The Center also has various individually microfilmed editions of the *Institutes*, as well as a computerized index to the 1559 Latin *Institutes* searchable on-site.

12. *Works by and about Huldrych Zwingli*
IDC microfiche.

B. Manuscripts on Microfilm

1. Archives d'État de Genève

a. *Registres de la Compagnie des Pasteurs de Genève*

These rolls consist of the minutes of the Company of Pastors, including the Ecclesiastical Ordinances of 1541, for the period from 1541–1594.

b. *Registres du Consistoire*

These twelve rolls, consisting of twenty-one volumes, are the minutes of the Consistory from February 1542 to February 1565.

c. *Registres du Conseil*

These thirty-three rolls, consisting of the same number of volumes, are the minutes of the Council of Geneva from 1536–1564.

DEFENSIO ORTHODOXÆ
fidei de sacra Trinitate, cōtra prodigio-
fos errores Michaelis Serueti Hispani:
vbi ostenditur hæreticos iure Gladii co-
ercendos esse, & nominatim de homine
hoc tam impio iuste & merito sumptū
Geneuæ fuisse supplicium.

Per Iohannem Caluinum.



Oliua Roberti Stephani.
M. D. L I I I I.

2. Musée Historique de la Réformation, Genève
The *Archives Tronchin* is a remarkable collection of a Genevan family's papers from the sixteenth through the eighteenth century and is an excellent resource for the study of Calvin and his influence through these centuries, for the history of Geneva, and for the study of Beza, the French Reformed Church, the Turretini, and even the Synod of Dort. The Meeter Center has twenty-two rolls, consisting of fifty-two of the one hundred and thirty-five volumes in the archive. A paper index to the collection is available.
3. Bibliothèque Publique et Universitaire de Genève
 - a. *Manuscrits Français*, No. 41–52
These five rolls consist of twelve manuscript volumes of the *Acta* of national and provincial synods of the Reformed Church in France from 1559–1659, including a summary of the acts of the provincial synods of Dauphiné from 1597–1659.
 - b. *Manuscrits Français*, No. 401–51
These twenty-two rolls consist of fifty-one manuscript volumes of ecclesiastical correspondence in French dating from 1530–1797. They are a vital manuscript source for the correspondence of Calvin, Beza, and the Turretini, and relate to the Swiss and the French churches.
 - c. *Manuscrits Latins*, No. 106–10
These five rolls consist of seven manuscript volumes of Latin ecclesiastical correspondence beginning with a 1528 letter to Calvin.
4. Archives of the French Protestant Church
The archives of the Huguenot Community in London dating from 1560–1889 are contained in the Hekman Library. World Microfilms Publications.
5. Oud Synodaal Archief
These archives of The Netherlands Reformed Church in The Hague dating from 1560–1810 cover The Netherlands and abroad plus the Dutch Republic and its colonies. IDC microfiche.
6. Bibliothèque Sainte Geneviève, Paris
These five rolls consist of five volumes, numbered 1454–1458, of ecclesiastical correspondence. The volumes are given the common title *Epistolae Haereticorum*. Some are transcribed in very legible hands.

7. Staatsarchiv, Zürich
This roll consists of Calvin's letters to Bullinger and others from 1537–1563. The volumes containing these letters are designated E II, 337–71. An index to all the letters is reproduced at the head of the roll.
8. Thesaurus Hottingerianus. Zentrabibliothek Zurich
Sources for Reformation history: A manuscript collection from the estate of John Heinrich Hottinger (1620–1667), theologian, church historian, and orientalist. IDC microfiche.

Post-Reformation Works

1. *Acta Sanctorum*
The Hekman Library owns this collection of the major publication of the Bollandists, a group of scholars named after Jean Bolland. This work includes a critical description of the lives of all the saints mentioned in the *Martyrologium Romanorum*. IDC microfiche.
2. *ATLA Monographs on Fiche*
This ongoing preservation project includes nineteenth-century works and reprints of earlier documents. The Hekman Library owns various sections of phases 4, 5, 7, and 8, which contain biblical texts and Reformed works, church history (texts, reference, biographical, and autobiographical works), theological studies, biblical studies (monographs), history of religions (texts and monographs), and denominational materials.
3. *Biographical and Bibliographical Dictionary of the Italian Humanists*
These twenty-eight rolls of film cover Italian humanists and the world of classical scholarship in Italy from 1300–1800. Renaissance Society of America.
4. Dissertations
These microfilmed dissertations, held in the Meeter Center, cover many subjects pertaining to John Calvin and/or Calvinism.
5. *Early American Imprints* (Evans digital edition)
These literary, religious, and theological works printed in America between 1640–1800 are available on-line or in microfiche in the Hekman Library.
6. *Manuscripta*
These microfilms from the Vatican of rare and out-of-print books from the late middle ages through the nineteenth century cover a wide variety of subjects. This collection, held in the Hekman Library, is searchable by title and/or author through the library catalog. Under “Exact Series Title” type *Manuscripta*.

MEETER CENTER FELLOWSHIPS

Faculty Research Fellowship

Faculty of colleges, universities, or seminaries (other than Calvin College or Seminary), as well as independent scholars are invited to apply for appointment as a Meeter Center Research Fellow for study at the H. Henry Meeter Center. The appointment carries a stipend of \$2,000–\$4,000 and use of the Meeter Center facilities. The appointee is expected to be in residence for a period of 6–14 weeks. Applicants should have completed their Ph.D. prior to their application for the fellowship.

Fellowship applications should be submitted to the director of the Meeter Center no later than January 1. Applications will be acted upon by the governing board or its executive committee. Notification of the award will be mailed shortly thereafter.

This application must be supported by a two- or three-page, double-spaced proposal, specifying where possible what particular Meeter Center resources are to be used. The application must also include a complete curriculum vitae and a letter of academic reference from a faculty member or a letter of reference from a senior scholar in the field of the applicant's interest.

Successful fellows are expected to acknowledge the assistance provided by the Meeter Center in any published work resulting from their period of research in the Meeter Center.

Student Research Fellowship

Students of colleges, universities, or seminaries (other than Calvin College or Seminary) may apply for a four-week appointment as a Meeter Center Student Research Fellow. The amount of the fellowship varies depending on the number and caliber of qualified applicants. This fellowship can be held during any part of the calendar year.

This application must be supported by a two- or three-page, double-spaced proposal, specifying where possible what particular Meeter Center resources are to be used. The application must also include a complete curriculum vitae and a letter of academic reference from the dissertation supervisor or a letter of reference from a senior scholar in the field of the applicant's interest.

A Meeter Center Research Fellow normally undertakes a specific research program that utilizes the resources of the Center. Successful fellows are expected to acknowledge the

assistance provided by the Meeter Center in any published work resulting from their period of research in the Center.

Applications should be made to the director of the Meeter Center and received by the Center no later than January 1. They will be acted upon by the governing board or its executive committee. Notification of the award will be mailed shortly thereafter.

The Emo F. J. Van Halsema Fellowship

The family of Emo F. J. Van Halsema has funded a fellowship at the Meeter Center for Calvin Studies for pastors in the Reformed tradition. Candidates must hold an appropriate graduate degree and submit a proposal that justifies their plans for research in the Center.

The four-week research fellowship is awarded to one person each year. The stipend is approximately \$1,000. Successful fellows are expected to acknowledge the assistance provided by the Meeter Center in any published work resulting from their period of research in the Center.

The Emo F. J. Van Halsema Fellowship applications should be submitted to the director of the Meeter Center no later than January 1. Applications will be acted upon by the governing board or its executive committee. Notification of the award will be mailed shortly thereafter. These applications must be supported by a curriculum vitae and a two- to three-page, double-spaced research proposal. This proposal should outline specific research goals and, if possible, state the particular resources of the Center to be used.

Application forms may be obtained from the Meeter Center upon request. Fellowship information and applications are also available on our Web site (www.calvin.edu/meeter).