Thursday, January 4

Today's Readings

- From *Engaging God’s World*
  - Preface
  - Chapter 1: *Longing and Hope*
- From the DCM Reader:
  - Preface and Chapter 1 Introduction
  - Colson & Pearcey, *What Are We Doing Here?*
  - Sire, *What is a Worldview?*
- Yonke, *Fill minds, then seats*

Class

- Devotions, Quiz, Discussion
- What is Randomness?

Preparing for Tomorrow

Readings

- Plantinga, Ch. 2, *Creation*
- Plantinga, Ch. 3, *The Fall*
- *Seven Deadly Sins of Students*
- Norris, *Good Old Sin*
- S. Glass, *Hack Heaven* (available online on the films page)
- Penenberg, *Lies, damn lies and fiction* (available online on the films page)
- Film: *Shattered Glass*

Reflection Essay

On the next page are several questions to help you think through the material. Pick one for a written response.

Quiz

We will again have a quiz tomorrow. The quiz will cover the readings and the film *Shattered Glass* You will be allowed to use your reading notes for the quiz. I may (or may not) also collect a portion of your reading notes again.

Pre-course survey on Probability and Statistics

Fill out this survey and bring it to class on Friday.
Questions for Reflection

Here are some questions to help you think through the material you are watching and reading. These questions draw upon the film Shattered Glass and the Seven Deadly Sins of Students but consider them in the light of the chapters we have read from Plantinga’s book.

Choose one of these and write a short response. This response should be typed and at most 2 pages long. It will be collected in class on Friday.

1. Which of the seven deadly sins of students do you find to be the greatest temptation for you personally? Which do you think is most prevalent among Calvin students? Why do you think this is? What could be done to improve the situation?

2. Which of the seven deadly sins of students do you think is “worst”? What do you think about the idea of categorizing sins into lesser and greater evil?

3. What part of Glass’s behavior do you find most reprehensible? Why?

4. Who is to blame for the actions of Stephen Glass? Is it all and only his fault? Can blame be cast elsewhere too, or would that just be looking for an excuse?
   What about when you sin? Are you the only one to blame or can blame be cast elsewhere, too?

5. Can Stephen Glass be forgiven for his actions? How would that work?
   A quick answer is “Yes, anything can be forgiven.” Here are some questions to help you probe the issue more deeply.
   • Do you think the two editors behaved appropriately? Should one of them have given him a second chance?
   • If you were an editor at another magazine, would you hire him?
   • If you were on the committee that needed to approve Glass to become a lawyer, would you vote for approval?
   • Would true forgiveness require giving Glass a second chance? or can you forgive someone but still not trust them?
   • Was Glass’ ‘punishment’ too soft? (He lost his job, but didn’t receive any other sanction.) Does that have any relationship to your willingness to forgive him?
   • If someone is a liar, how can you tell when they repent?