

# WHO IS DR. F.N. LEE ?

Dr. Francis Nigel Lee was born in 1934 in the Westmorland County of Cumbria (in Great Britain). He is the great-grandson of a fiery preacher whose family disintegrated when he backslid. Though Dr. Lee's father was an Atheist, he married a Roman Catholic who raised her son in that faith.

At the onset of the Second World War, Dr. Lee's father was appointed by the Royal Navy as Chief Radar Officer (South Atlantic). So the family then moved to South Africa. There Dr. Lee became a Calvinist; had the great joy of leading both of his parents to Christ; and became a Minister of God's Word and Sacraments in the Reformed Church of Natal.

Emigrating to the U.S.A., he attended the very first General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America; transferred his previous ministerial credentials to that denomination, and pastored congregations in Mississippi and Florida. He was also: Professor of Philosophy at Shelton College in New Jersey; Research Scholar-in-Residence at the Christian Studies Center in Memphis; and Academic Dean of Graham Bible College in Bristol Tennessee. He was then the only person in the World serving on the Executives of both the British Lord's Day Observance Society (headquartered in London) and the Lord's Day Alliance of the United States (headquartered in Atlanta).

Preacher, theologian, lawyer, educationist, historian, philosopher and author, Lee has produced more than 300 publications (including many books) - and also a multitude of long unpublished manuscripts. In addition to an honorary LL.D., he has twenty earned degrees - including some eleven earned doctorates\* awarded for dissertations in law, literature, philosophy and theology. His latest major work is a dissertation of more than 800 pages on *Tiny Human Life*: against abortion, *AID*, *AIH*, *SHW*, *IVF* and human cloning.

Dr. Lee rises early; reads God's Word in eight languages; then walks a couple of miles before breakfast. He has been round the World some six or seven times; has visited eighty-eight countries (several repeatedly); and has visited every Continent. He continues to be in demand as a promoter of doctoral students in Australia, Britain, Germany, South Africa and the U.S.A.

A diehard predestinarian and unreconstructed Southerner, Dr. Lee is affectionately nicknamed "General Lee" by his closest friends. Now in Australia, he is the Professor of Systematic Theology and Caldwell-Morrow Lecturer in Church History at the Queensland Presbyterian Theological Hall.

His wife Nellie is in Fulltime Christian Service as a godly Homemaker. Their elder daughter Johanna teaches English, German and Modern History in Brisbane, at Parkridge High School. Their younger daughter Annamarie (whom Dr. Lee baptized as a baby in 1970) was Secretary/Librarian at the Queensland Presbyterian Theological Hall in Australia and now teaches at Earnshaw College in Brisbane.

* Th.D.: <i>The Covenantal Sabbath</i>	D.Jur.: <i>Women Ministers &amp; Australian Litigation</i>
D.Phil.: <i>Communist Eschatology</i>	D.Litt.: <i>Holinshed on the Ancient British Isles</i>
D.Min.: <i>Daily Family Worship</i>	D.C.L.: <i>The Roots and Fruits of the Common Law</i>
S.T.D.: <i>Rebaptism Impossible!</i>	D.Ed.: <i>Catechism Before Communion!</i>
D.R.E.: <i>Baby Belief Before Baptism!</i>	Ph.D.: <i>Miracles - What and When and Why?</i>
D.Hum.: <i>Tiny Human Life - Abortion and Test-tube Babies</i>	

My heart has ever been prone to wander away from my God - ever since my conception. Shortly after my birth, I was baptized and sealed in the Name of the Triune God - as His property. Then I was raised in the Roman Catholic Church by my religious yet unconverted mother. For the first seven years of my life, I went to church daily. Yet, under my atheistic father' s influence - I myself, when only eight, completely broke with Christianity.

Thereafter, I dedicated all my talents to the furtherance of the false religion of atheism. I avidly studied rationalistic books on palaeontology, archeology and anthropology. By the time I was a teenager, I was a most convinced and articulate evolutionist. I openly laughed at Christians. For I thought they were trying to tell me that all the world' s problems started when a mythical Eve munched an apple “once upon a time” some 6000 years ago.

During my early teens I studied astronomy, chemistry, languages, chess, poker, bridge, and even Buddhism. Yet none of these satisfied my restless soul for very long. Going on to university, I majored in law, intending to enter politics *via* my legal practice - and thus to dedicate my life toward ameliorating human conditions.

To help me get ahead in politics, I bought a Bible and started reading it. Six weeks later, during a university summer vacation job, while trapped in a goldmine, God suddenly and dramatically converted me to Christ. There and then I promised Him that if it pleased Him to spare my life, I would dedicate all my energies to His service. Delivering me, God then sent me home, where I had the great joy of leading both of my parents to Christ. Then He led me to join a Bible-believing denomination, and thereafter sent me to a Seminary.

Since then, God gave me the grace to work for and acquire many university degrees, including the Th.D. in Systematic Theology and the Ph.D. in Christian Philosophy and Communist Philosophy (to which latter I am of course squarely opposed). During and since that time, I have pastored congregations and been a college professor - and am currently both teaching and preaching.

Today, in the words of the *Westminster Confession* (II:1), I believe that **Jehovah Elohim, the Creator, is the only God.** Contemplating His blessed attributes is the most profitable activity in which any man can ever engage.

For “there is but one only living and true God, Who is: infinite in being and perfection; a most pure spirit, invisible, without body-parts or passions; immutable, immense, eternal, incomprehensible, almighty, most wise, most holy, most free, most absolute; working all things according to the counsel of His own immutable and most righteous will for His own glory; most loving, gracious, merciful, long-suffering, abundant in goodness and truth, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin; the Rewarder of them that diligently seek Him; and withal most just and terrible in His judgments; hating all sin; and Who will by no means clear the guilty.”

To me, this means God alone is the only worthwhile object of human adoration. And my own heart was ever restless, until it came to its own permanent rest in this glorious Being (Matt. 11:28).

Now this God **Jehovah Elohim is the Father, Son, and Spirit.** In my adult life, He has fulfilled the promises sealed to me in His Own Triune Name when I was previously baptized (Matt. 28:19). To me, such thinking is eminently practical. For, like everybody else, I am often

faced with making decisions regarding priorities as to what is my most important duty.

Is it my obligation: to the municipality, to my state or province, or to my federal government? To my congregation, to my presbytery, or to my general assembly? To my wife, to my children, or to myself? To my denomination, to my fellow Christians irrespective of denomination or nationality, or to my country?

Here, the doctrine of the Trinity helps me to give due consideration to the interests of all these entities. For in the Trinity, there is a basic unity of interests amid the Diverse Persons. No one Person is ever more important than the Others, nor than the Triune Divine Community as a whole. Neither is that Community more important than the distinct personalities of each of the three Persons.

Now **all things in the universe are meaningless: save when regarded as creatures of the Triune Lord.** States the *Confession* (II:2): “God hath all life, glory, goodness [and] blessedness in and of Himself; and is alone in and unto Himself all-sufficient, not standing in need of any creatures which He hath made, nor deriving any glory from them - but only manifesting His own glory in, by, unto, and upon them. He is the alone Fountain of all being - of Whom, through Whom, and to Whom are all things; and hath most sovereign dominion over them to do by them, for them, and upon them, whatsoever Himself pleaseth.”

This means, quite frankly, that everything we see and do is ultimately absurd - except insofar as we consciously believe it is in the Triune God alone that all these things consist (Col. 1:17). Only this knowledge gives real purpose to my life.

To me, **faith** in the Triune God alone is very important. Without it, life would be impossible to me now. For “without faith, it is impossible to please Him; for he that comes to God, must believe that He is and that He rewards those who diligently keep on seeking Him” (Heb. 11:6).

Only once after my conversion have I ever doubted my saved status before God. That was when I became uncertain whether my "faith" in Christ was really and truly “saving faith.” Mercifully, however, God soon showed me that it is not by faith that I am saved - but **by grace** (and only “through” faith). Moreover, even that **instrument of faith** - is not from myself. For it is a free gift of God (Eph. 2:8).

So I now have no trust in my experiences about my faith. I put all my trust only in Christ Himself, irrespective of my experiences of Him. I have no faith in my faith. I have faith only in Christ. And by regular Bible study, prayer, church attendance, and the use of the sacraments - God strengthens such faith. See the *Confession* XIV:1.

In spite of my many personal sins and weaknesses, and even though I do distinguish between central and peripheral matters, I certainly hold strong convictions about many things. This is because, realizing the fragility and relative worthlessness of my own views, I am convinced utterly that God' s views alone have any ultimate value. So I am now determined to think God' s revealed thoughts after Him. It is only in the light of His Infallible Word, the 66-book Bible, that I see the light about everything and anything.

As the *Confession* correctly states, “a Christian believeth to be true whatsoever is revealed in the Word - for the authority of God Himself speaking therein [XIV:2].... The whole counsel of God concerning all things necessary for His own glory, man' s salvation, faith, and life - is either expressly set down in Scripture, or by good and necessary consequence may be deduced from

Scripture: unto which nothing at any time is to be added, whether by new revelation of the Spirit or traditions of man” (I:6). For, as the *Larger Catechism* (Q. 5) declares, “the Scriptures principally teach what man is to believe concerning God - and what duty God requires of man.”

To me, then, Scripture is given not only to make us wise unto salvation **but also** to furnish us thoroughly unto **all** good works (II Tim. 3:15-17) - even unto the good works of Christian education, Christian medical practice, Christian business activity, Christian farming, Christian housework, and Christian everything-else (Gen. 1:26-28 & Ps. 8). This does **not** mean that the Bible is a **handbook** for all of the special sciences. Yet it does mean that the Bible is indeed the **Sourcebook** for everything. Indeed, no special sciences are to be studied contrarywise to the clear teaching of Scripture.

For although, as the *Confession* declares (I:6), “there are some circumstances...common to human actions and societies, which are to be ordered by **the light of nature** and Christian prudence” - this is **always** to be done “according to the general rules of **the Word**, which are always to be observed.” Evolutionism, which I previously championed, is therefore not just unacceptable even “for the birds.” It is also not even for the “creeping things.” For God made **all** of His creatures “after their kind.” Gen. 1:11 *f*,21*f*.

Sometimes I am asked about my thoughts on **life after death**. Here I believe with the Bible (Ps. 51:5 & Eph. 3:3 & John 3:3-5) that, as a result of man' s fall, all men are now **by nature** conceived in iniquity and born in sin - and hence cannot even see (and still less enter into) the Kingdom of God, unless they be born again. Until man is regenerated, he is nothing more than a lost soul under the righteous judgment and wrath of a virtue-loving and sin-hating God (Eph. 2:12 & John 3:36). Unregenerates are thus on their way to eternal separation from God in a place called Hell, where they are to suffer constant agony in body and in soul - for ever. Mark 9:42-49 & Rev. 14:9-11.

Yet I also believe God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, so that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16). Those who believe in Jesus as Lord of their lives, inherit eternal bliss - in three (triune) stages.

First, they receive Christ here and now - and thereby enter into the Kingdom of Heaven here on Earth (John 5:24). Second, when they die, their souls go to Heaven - where they enjoy conscious bliss with Jesus until His second coming (Rev. 4:1-11). And third, with Christ' s second coming back to this Earth to transform it, He brings Heaven and its inhabitants with Him - so that Heaven then comes down to Earth (Rev. 21:1-2). Then the saved will get back their immortalized bodies, and thenceforth perfectly love God and enjoy Him forever in both soul and body (I Cor. 15:35-58). See here the *Catechism*, Q. 1.

Meantime, I believe that Christians are to live to God' s glory in this world **here and now**. To me, this means that Christians must be “triunely” involved in three united and related activities all their time.

First, they must subdue the Earth and all its fullness to the glory of God the Father - precisely through serving the Lord in the ordinary practice of their professional careers (Gen. 9:1-6 & I Cor. 10:31). Second, they must evangelize the Earth and christianize all its nations as commanded by God the Son - and get them to obey all things whatsoever He has commanded, even from Genesis through Revelation (Matt. 28:19 & Mark 16:15). And third, they must promote the coming of the Kingdom in all its many facets - with all their might, through the power of God the Spirit, as all history further unfolds toward its divinely-predestinated

While doing all this between Christ' s first and second comings, I believe that Christians **are to see the hand of God in all things**. They are to thank Him for His blessed **providence** even in their adversities - and also in their ordinary day-to-day circumstances.

As the *Heidelberg Catechism* (Q. 1 & Lord' s Day 10) states, my only comfort in life and death is that I am not my own but belong with body and soul to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ. He "so preserves me - that without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation."

This blessed providence is "the almighty and everywhere-present power of God, whereby as it were by His hand He upholds and governs Heaven and Earth and all creatures." So: "herbs and grass, rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, meat and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty - yes, and all things - come not by chance, but by His fatherly hand."

There is also an intensely **practical** result of believing all of this. For thus we learn how to "be patient in adversity; thankful in prosperity; and that in all things which may hereafter befall us, we place our firm trust in our faithful God and Father - that nothing shall separate us from His love, since all creatures are so in His hand that without His will they cannot so much as move."

This, then, is my God-given faith, dear reader. May the Lord Himself grant, by His great grace, that it may also become yours too!

-- Dr. Francis Nigel Lee

Author of the publications: *About Sunday; Abraham Kuyper and the Rebirth of True Knowledge; A Christian Introduction to the History of Philosophy; Antichrist in Scripture; Are the Mosaic Laws for Today?; Baby Belief Before Baptism!; Biblical Christianity versus Unbiblical Pacifism; Biblical Principles for Church Architecture; Biblical Private Property versus Socialistic Common Property; Calvin on Creation; Calvin on the Sciences; Calvin on the Weekly Sabbath; Catechism Before Communion!; Catechizing Toward Revival!; Christian Philosophy in Twentieth Century North America; Christocracy and the Divine Savior's Law for All Mankind; Communism (A Christian Evaluation); Communism versus Christianity; Communism versus Creation; Communist Eschatology; Creation and Commission; Culture (A Philosophical and Theological Analysis); Daily Family Worship; Dr. John Owen Re-Presbyterianized; Effective Evangelism; Have You Been Neglecting Your Baby?; John Calvin (True Presbyterian); Keys of Revival in the Modern Church; Materialism, Idealism and Calvinism; Lee vs. Jordan on Paidocommunion; May Christians Ever Go to Law?; Matthew Henry's Covenantal Home Life; Missions as the Heart of the Church's Calling; Mount Sinai and the Sermon on the Mount; Nationality and the Bible; On Common Law; Origin and Destiny of Man; Pentecostalism (New Outpouring or Ancient Heresy?); Philosophy and the Bible; Principles for Church Discipline; Rebaptism Impossible!; Revealed to Babies!; Revival and Daily Family Worship; Revival Through 'Prophesying'; Should the Preacher be the Only Elder to Rule in the Congregation?; South Africa's 'Total Depravity'; Sprinkling Is Scriptural!; Ten Commandments Today!; The Anabaptists and Their Stepchildren; The Basic Ideas of Communism and How They Are Propagated; The Biblical Theory of Christian Education; The Central Significance of Culture; The Christian Afrikaners; The Christian Manifesto of 1984; The Covenantal Sabbath; The Eldership (I-II); The Family Fabric; The Fascination History of Early Britain; The Ministry of the Word; The Office of Deacon; The Sabbath in the Bible; The Salvation of the Early-Dying*

*Infants of Infidels; The Westminster Confession and Modern Society; Toward a Biblical Philosophy; Toward a Biblical Theology; What About Baptism?; What Really Happened (The Severe Limitations of Most Histories); What Saith the Scriptures About Race and Nation?; What Sunday is Really All About; Will Christ or Satan Win This World? -- and of many unpublished writings.*