

Questions Chapter 5 – Of God's Providence

- 1) What is the relationship between God's decree of chapter 3 and His providence here in chapter 5?
- 2) What does the term, "Providence" mean?
- 3) What are the two determining causes of God's providence?
- 4) What is the primary goal of God's providence?
- 5) What does the confession mean when it acknowledges that God is the first cause?
- 6) Is it possible for an event to be both divinely determined and brought to pass by a free/random choice? Explain.
- 7) It is stated that this chapter gives a concession, an assertion, and a qualification. What is the assertion (found para 2b) and what does the confession mean when it uses the terms: necessarily, freely, or contingently?
- 8) Does the Bible speak of chance events? If so, how does this work with God's providence?
- 9) If God uses the means mentioned in question 6, what three things should our understanding should keep us from doing/being?

10) If God must always work within the means, which he has ordained, what does this prevent?

11) What is an example if any from Scripture that God has worked without means?

12) What is an example if any from Scripture that God has worked above means?

13) What is an example if any from Scripture that God has worked against means?

14) Is God the author of sin then, why or why not?

15) Why doesn't God remove all sin from the elect while they are on earth? In other words, what purpose does lingering sin of the elect have in God's Providence?

16) If it's true that God allows sin to affect the lives of the elect, what about the non-elect? How does God's providence look like in regards to the unbeliever?

17) Who is the 'apple' of God's eye?

18) What application, if any, comes from knowing who is in God's special care?