

that education was available and one finds that not only Knox, but also Ochino, former head of the Capuchin order, and Vergerio, former papal legate and archbishop as well as a nephew of Paul IV, and many others took advantage of its academic climate. Not all who came agreed theologically with Calvin's system but Geneva offered them a place and an opportunity to retrench. The men who came were not political renegades, but churchmen moved by the concepts of a gracious salvation and "sola scriptura."

## II.6.i. Writings

Calvin's Writings

Like those of Luther, the writings of Calvin are voluminous. His INSTITUTES are the clearest expression of systematic theology in the reformed camp..maybe any camp. They are foundational to the work of the later confessions and the Puritan writings. His commentaries are uneven in quality but are stimulating and often touch just the right cord of exegesis. His writings on the Messianic concepts in Scripture are profound although he does not do much with eschatology...as with Luther it was not a major field of interest. Calvin is at his best in the TRACTS AND TREATISES as well as some of his personal letters. The tract on reforming the church is as modern in content as if it had been written in our century. The response to Sadolet is devastating. Whatever he is writing, his logic is precise and clear even though it may not always be developed to the full. As an interpreter of Scripture he belongs somewhat to all schools and is mastered or owned by none. If you should see one of the editions of the INSTITUTES as published by the AP & P, it is annotated by Prof. Dunzweiler. The publisher ungraciously forgot to put his name on the title page.

## II.6.j Summary

Summary

Never having the luxury of good health, Calvin continued to decline in the physical side of things. His enormous activity in preaching, writing and working for the many reformation interests took great amounts of energy. The last eight years of his life were marked by even greater measures of ill-health but his energy never abandoned him. He drove himself incessantly and no doubt could have done a little better if he could have learned to relax but that was not possible. Particularly after the death of their infant son and then that of his wife, work and devotion marked his entire existence. He was not above some diversions but it had a low priority.