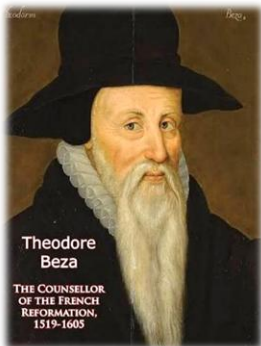


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Website: www.sovereignhopebpc.org
Rev Dr Jack Sin: 91160948 (hp) / jacksin710@gmail.com
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A Lesser-Known Reformer - Theodore Beza -

Many of us know the mainstream Reformers like Luther and Zwingli, but do we know their successors? As Philip Melanchthon was to Martin Luther and Heinrich Bullinger to Huldrych Zwingli, Theodore Beza was to John Calvin. Let us discuss his life and legacy here.

His Early Days

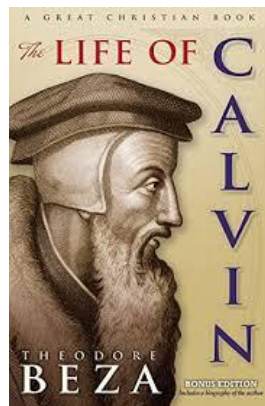
Beza was born in June 1519 from a humble background in Burgundy, France. In God's providence, at the age of nine, he studied under Melchior Wolmar, a German Lutheran. Wolmar not only taught him Greek and Latin but also brought Beza to seek Christ as his Saviour and Lord. Beza said that Wolmar's tutelage was *"the beginning of all the good things which I have received from that time forward and which I trust to receive hereafter in my future life."*

Beza backslided for about a decade and in 1548, while bedridden and near death, God revived his heart and he returned to the Lord. Beza fled France to join the Reformed cause in Switzerland. In the will of God just like what his predecessor John Calvin did some years ago..

Geneva's Defender of Calvinism

Beza began his ministry teaching pastors in Lausanne and in 1558, he was called to Geneva to serve under John Calvin and became the first rector of the Geneva Academy. Calvin wrote that he cared "deeply for Beza, who loves me more than a brother and honours me more than a father."

When Calvin died in 1564, the grave duty of leading the Genevan Reformation was on Beza. He became the city's notable pastor and the leader of the movement for the next forty years.



Beza brought the Reformation forward and defended the biblical doctrines Calvin had taught.

As a ready and able leader, he travelled widely to teach and defend the faith and wrote a widely read biography of John Calvin. Through his prolific teaching and writing ministry, Beza:

- Defended the imputation of Christ's righteousness as essential to justification
- Explained the justice of double predestination
- Expounded the profound comfort a believer receives from Christ's definite atonement

The Reformation Wall in Geneva

William Farel, John Calvin,

Theodore Beza, John Knox



The Test of Poissy (1561)

Beza's leadership was seen in greater Europe beyond just Geneva. His most significant political test came when he was called to represent the French Huguenots (Protestants) at the Colloquy of Poissy in 1561.

Convened by the Queen-mother Catherine de' Medici, this high-profile summit was a last-ditch effort to prevent a religious civil war in France. Standing before King Charles IX and an adversarial room of Catholic cardinals, Beza brilliantly defended the Reformed doctrines of grace before his foes.

The colloquy reached a breaking point over the Eucharist. When Beza explicitly argued against Christ's physical presence in the bread and wine—stating that

Christ's body was as far from the elements "as the highest heaven is from the earth"—the Catholic delegates erupted in outrage, branding it blasphemy. While the conference failed to arrive at a theological compromise, Beza became the defender of the French Reformed church and led directly to the Synod of La Rochelle in 1571. **We need the same spirit too in these last days as we defend the faith in perilous times too**



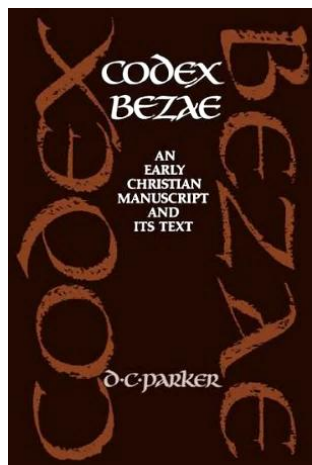
Theodore Beza's Works: Codex Bezae

Beza led the young French-speaking Reformed church with his preaching, books and sound literature necessary for its growth. He was best known for his seminal work on the New Testament, culminating in his Annotations of the New Testament. This linguistic masterpiece included the original Greek text, the Latin Vulgate translation, and Beza's own original Latin translation. This was used by the Bible translators later in different countries.

Beza demonstrated that the Reformed faith was distinctly biblical. His work directly influenced the 1560 Geneva Bible, which became the most popular translation among the Puritans that was brought to America.

His academic legacy included the noted Codex Bezae. It represents a highly distinctive textual tradition, particularly in the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts, containing textual variations not found in other ancient manuscripts.

Beza used its insights to refine his own Greek New Testament editions, a foundation stone of modern New Testament textual criticism. The Greek text Beza published from these sources, alongside the Codex itself, heavily influenced the translators of the 1611 King James Bible and many others many years later.



THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

**The doctrine that God,
in His wisdom, has
absolute power and
control over all things.**

**Many are the plans in a
man's heart, but it is
the LORD'S purpose
that will stand.**

- Proverbs 19:21

God's Higher Hand

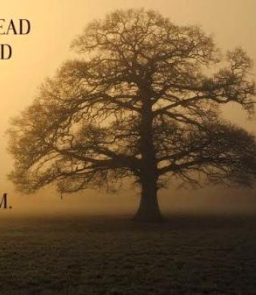
The doctrines of grace were further taught by Beza. Beza believed in God's absolute sovereignty over all human affairs. Living through tumultuous times led him to rely on this sound theology. In 1587, when Geneva was almost overrun by Catholic forces, Beza encouraged his congregation to rest in their God 's divine providence.

To Beza, our only reason for hope was the sovereign God who could save His elect from spiritual death. He promoted the doctrine of human depravity and the necessity of divine grace to escape the wrath of God. **Such were the sound doctrines he propagated that under gird the 16th century Protestant reformation which affected England Scotland and even Germany and France**

Death and Legacy

Beza spent the rest of his life in Geneva. He laboured under trying conditions, constantly facing the threat of Catholic invasion and navigating a rising tide of fierce Lutheran polemics against Reformed Protestants.

BLESSED ARE THE DEAD
WHO DIE IN THE LORD
FROM NOW ON.
BLESSED INDEED,
THAT THEY MAY
REST FROM THEIR
LABORS, FOR THEIR
DEEDS FOLLOW THEM.
REVELATION 14:13



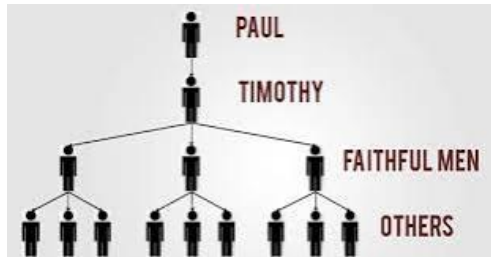
On 13 Oct 1605, Beza entered into glory at the age of 86, after an illustrious 40 years of ministry in Geneva where he kept the Reformed church glowing and going despite fierce opposition.

Beza died peacefully and was buried in Geneva, deeply loved and well-remembered by his congregants. Teaching the absolute rule of God, he wrote and preached with a zeal that

advanced the gospel across the world. **The Reformed world learnt from him and others that God reigns with all power, we can confidently hope in His faithfulness —both for their eternal salvation and for their protection through the trials of their earthly journey. Such was the consolation for many during difficult times**

Conclusion

There is no success without a successor and there are lesser-known servants of God in history. God has his faithful stewards in every generation. Indeed, we not only need to look for a successor in our ministry in due time but a good and godly one too who share the same convictions and is able to bring the church, college or ministry forward in the will of God.



May the Lord help every Pastor or College President or Missionary when our time is up to find the right Bezas and Bullingers should He tarry as He guides us.

2Tim 4:1-8, 2:1-4

Adapted and Edited by Jack Sin

(Works consulted include Shawn Wright, Theodore Beza-The First Calvinist, Desiring God Ministry, 2026 and Philip Schaff, History of the Christian Church, Vol VIII, Eerdmans Grand Rapids, 1991, 846-871)



22 October 2026
Thursday
3.15 – 4.15pm

Reach out and encourage the residents at All Saints Home (Tampines) through the Bible study lesson.



Contact Eld Yue Kay if you are available to help at any of these sessions:

- Bible Study on **22/10, 12/11 and 10/12** (Thurs 3.15pm to 4.15pm)
- Chapel outreach on **20/11** (Fri from 9.30am to 10.30am)

Thank you for SH Weekly 2026 10 04. The article “A Good Question on Procrastination” is very helpful to Bible College students, school children in their studies and even us adults as we manage procrastination in our lives.

How do we overcome the bad habit of procrastination?

We need strength from the Lord to organise our tasks (Rom. 12:11,12). We also need to pray for Godly discipline (Col.4:5) to break into smaller tasks, pen it down and do it.

Praise the Lord for helping us to do things on time and avoid delays, for His glory.

Phil. 4.13

Rev Edward & Mrs Leah Paaue
Hope BPC
Adelaide, Australia



Report from Kathmandu, Nepal

Dear Rev. Dr. Jack Sin & SHBPC,

Subject: "Appreciation for Valuable Support!"

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Thank God, Kathmandu BPC would like to give thank our most gracious, loving and heavenly Father.

On the morning of 26 August 2026, a series of flash floods and debris flows destroyed the Gyirong Port on the China-Nepal border and struck dozens of settlements along a 72 km stretch of the Trishuli River in Nepal. These events are also known as the **2026 Nepal-China floods**, Bhotekoshi flood, or Rasuwa flood. At least 1,454 deaths and 5,285 missing persons in Nepal.

About 12 Churches in that region also affected by flood, and some of Pastors, Elders, and Deacon leaders and members of Church passed away or missing in the flood.

Thank God, Rev. Jack Sin, and BOE of Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church, Singapore has the burden of prayer, encouragement and support to some of Flood relief families, and with co-operative with Kathmandu Bible Presbyterian Church by the grace of God, we planned to go one of disaster areas called Dharapani, near by Betrawati one of the most affected by flood. Thank God, Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church, Singapore has donated SGD2400, In Nepali Rupees Rs. 285624.15. (Note: SGD S 1=Rupees 119.01 as per bank exchange rate).

From Kathmandu BPC, Pre. Rajan Shrestha, Elder Noah Ghale and Brother Shachin Ghale, we three of us, went by vehicle called Toyota Hilux, early morning on Thursday 8 October 2026, to give the needed items. 60 families. **By vehicle reach Kaalika 3. Dharaapaani Rasuwa it took 9 hours**, The road of mountain areas are unpaved mountain tracks, narrow, steep, and often unpaved, making challenging for travels, and because of raining the road. become muddy, and slippery during Monsson rains.

Thank God we reached safely at Dharaapaani at 2pm, before **we donate 60 families the needed relief items, I shared short gospel only five minutes** (because of restricted of



preaching gospel during this situation), and we met Sister Remika Khadka, wife of late Ps. Bed Bahadur Khadka who passed away in massive flood and also met to his daughter Christina Khadka and members of Church whose family members and love one passed away in flood and also met to other people those who are not believers whose family members also passed away in flood.



We gave them total 60 families and each family: An Electric Jug Company name Baltra 1:8 ltr, a Silver Basin, and a Cotton Bed Sheet.



Sister Remika Khadka wife of Pastor Bed Bahadur Khadka requested us to purchase a Guitar for local Church so, we purchase a Hallow Guitar and gave to sister Remika as she requested. I have attached photos and some of videos too. Because of long journey we were unable to return back same day, so we stayed on the way called Bidur at Hotel, and we reached safely this morning at Kathmandu at 12 noon.

We wanted to give them like Blanket or grocery items means like Rice, Daal, and oil but as they requested instead of these items, they requested us Electric Jug, Silver Basin, and Cotton Bed Sheet. Other organization and INGO, and NGO already gave them grocery items.

Thank God, and Thanks a lot Rev. Dr. Jack Sin, and BOE of Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church, Singapore for support with SGD \$ 2400, from the amount of Rs. 285624.15 total expenses Rupees Rs. 241095, and the remain amount Rupees Rs. 44529.15, we have here at Kathmandu BPC. From that amount, we will do next flood relief program and will send the report too.

Conclusion: Thank God, and Thanks a lot Rev. Dr. Jack Sin, and BOE of Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church, Singapore for support in this situation of Nepal specially affected by the massive flood areas, on the way back to Kathmandu, I was suffering by fever and headache so yesterday, I was not feeling well and couldn't take food. Thank God, this morning by the grace of God, I am healed and reached safely at Kathmandu, attached name list, receive amount detail, expenses items, and photos and videos too. All the glory be to and God Bless.

***In His Grace,
Pre. Rajan Shrestha
Kathmandu B-P Church
Kathmandu, Nepal
October 10, 2026***



Memory Verse

2Tim 1:13 Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

Announcements

1. Welcome to our Worship Service! If you are here for the first time, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave. Those who share the church vision to acquire a place of worship in due time, may designate your offerings to the SHBPC Church Building Fund.
2. Rev Daniel Gan of Moriah BPC brings us God's Word this morning on "**Holding On to Sound Words (2Tim 1:13-18)**", commencing a quarterly series on "**Apostolic Admonitions for Finishing Well in Life - the Epistle of 2 Timothy**",
3. Pastor is preaching and administering the Lord's Supper at Gospel Light BPC this morning.
4. Next Sunday is Reformation Sunday. Rev Tan Eng Boo will preach on "**The Precepts & Practices of the Reformation (Jer 6:16; Phil 1:27)**".
5. Sunday School classes after the worship service are:
 - Walk Thru the Old Testament (Pastor)
 - Studies in Revelation (Dr Kwong Leen)
6. Chinese Fellowship meets every Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom. [**Zoom ID:883 9662 4157 Passcode: 218178**]. Join us for time of learning on the Book of Hosea (Thirdmill video lessons) and Heroes of the Faith (messages).
7. The Mission Team to Myanmar would like to bring Children's Christian Books for Preacher Myitta's ministry. Contact Dn Paul (hp:97314733) by 31 Oct if you would like to contribute.
8. Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. The prayer list is available in church. [**Zoom ID:863 7527 5431 Passcode: 625551**].
9. Pray for:
 - **Travels: Pastor & Angie** [21-24/10, Tg Pinang/Bintan], **Joseph & Rachel** [25-30/10, Taipei], **Joseph & Lilian** [30/10-31/12, Adelaide]
 - **Outreach @All Saints Home: 22 Oct, 12 & 20 Nov, 10 Dec**
 - **Myanmar Mission Trip Preparations [10-17 Nov]** – Pastor, Angie, Dn Paul, Deborah
 - **Medical: Kin Hoong's daughter Joyce** [surgery on 20 Oct], **Simon** [continued recovery at home], **Ps Babu's father-in-law** [treatment options for pancreatic cancer]
 - **Joseph & Rachel:** Gospel Peace Station and void deck outreaches
 - **Lily Almon** [citizenship application]
10. Love gifts, Offering and Tithes to the Lord can be given in the following ways:
 - **Cheque** payable to **Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church**
 - **Fund transfer** to Church **UOB** Account **392-308-825-1**
 - **PayNow** to Church UEN: **T19SS0116FSOV**

Kindly indicate "**Church Building Fund**" if you would like to designate towards this cause.