EDITOR'S NOTES: Chandeliers and Porch Lights

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Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., used to speak of God’s calling and anointing upon His people in terms of light fixtures in old Southern mansions. In God’s providence He supplies the Church with brilliant chandeliers in the foyer that welcome guests into the home. The beauty of the chandelier sets the tone for what the guests may expect from the rest of residence.

The chandeliers of the Reformation were Luther, Calvin, Knox, and Zwingli: men who, on account of the brilliance of their scholarship and personality, opened the doors of Protestantism to the world. Their luminence continues to light the way for many even to this day, and it is understandable that they should attract most of our attention.

But chandeliers in the foyer cannot keep one from tripping on the back porch. Those back porch lights, along with the lights in the hallways and other rooms, are equally important. They may or may not be eye-catching, but we could not do without them. Just so with “the other Reformers.” We may pay them little attention, but they are the ones that guide us through the maze of rediscovered theology revealed through the Reformation.

We can only sketch out the lives and contributions of a few of these faithful ones here. We hope this glimpse of the other Reformers will encourage you to be faithful, whether you are a chandelier or a porch light in God’s providence. Soli Gloria Deo!