PART I

REFORMED SCHOLASTICISM AND
THE SCOTIST HERITAGE
1. Introduction: The Master and his Students

Since his arrival in Utrecht in 1993, Willem van Asselt has devoted himself to the study of Reformed scholasticism. In private conversations he sometimes referred to his discovery of “the new school approach” in terms of a conversion-experience and ever since a passion for a historically informed and a theologically adequate, i.e. non-biased approach to classic Reformed thought has been pivotal in both his research and his professional teaching.\(^1\) Being van Asselt’s former assistants we have been part of this dynamic reappraisal of Reformed scholasticism in the contemporary classroom in Utrecht, once a flourishing centre of seventeenth-century scholastic theology. To introduce students to the newly discovered world of Reformed scholasticism has been van Asselt’s educational purpose, and in this contribution we wish to pursue the lead of the master who continues to show the attitude of a student himself.

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