

Calvinism

None Dare Call It

HERESY!



John Calvin said,

"We call predestination God's eternal decree, by which He compacted with Himself what He willed to become of each man. For all are not created in equal condition; rather, eternal life is foreordained for some, eternal damnation for others."

John Calvin taught that God will be glorified by bringing people into this world to have them burn in Hell for eternity.

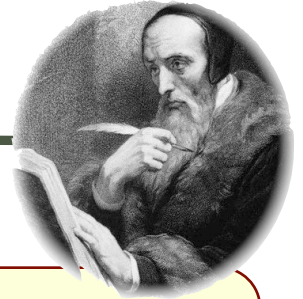
According to Calvinism it might be your mother, your little boy, your daughter, your wife, and all the children in the church nursery that God will delight in sending to Hell. It might even be you!

That is a blatant attack on the character of God!

THAT IS HERESY!

B. Kirkland D.D.

Calvinism...



None Dare Call It Heresy!

IS CALVINISM HERESY?

The only time God uses the word “heretic” in the Scriptures is when He was talking about Christian preaching false doctrine.

There are many Scriptures commanding us not to allow false doctrine to be promoted in the local church. Included in those instructions we read in Titus 3:10, “A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject.” According to Strongs Concordance, “heretic” here simply means, “a follower of a false doctrine.”

Notice the word “admonition.” This is a word that is used when dealing with believers. Romans 15:14 refers to the Christian when it says, “...admonish one another.” Second Thessalonians 3:14-15 says, “And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.”

The purpose of this article is to show that the teaching of John Calvin is heresy in the Bible definition of the term. Many Scriptures command us to have no company with those who promote false doctrine.

WHERE CALVIN GOT HIS THEOLOGY

When one preacher first meets another preacher it usually isn't long until the question will come up concerning where they got their Bible training. The answer will reveal much information concerning the theology and the philosophy of ministry of the new acquaintance.



Augustine

Concerning John Calvin's spiritual education Calvin said, “Augustine is so wholly with me, that if I wished to write a confession of my faith, I would do so with all fullness and satisfaction to myself out of his writings” (John Calvin - “The Eternal Predestination of God”).

John Calvin said,

“We call predestination God's eternal decree, by which He compacted with Himself what He willed to become of each man. For all are not created in equal condition; rather, eternal life is foreordained for some, eternal damnation for others.”

John Calvin taught that God will be glorified by bringing billions of people into this world for no other purpose than having them burn in Hell for eternity.

If that is not heresy, what does one have to teach in order for it to be heresy?

“Heretic” in the Scriptures simply means, “a follower of a false doctrine.”

WHO WAS AUGUSTINE AND WHAT DID HE BELIEVE?

Augustine has often been referred to as, "*The Father of The Inquisition.*" He had Christians put to death for their faith. He said, "*Any man who opposed infant baptism was accursed.*" He believed that Mary was sinless and should be worshiped. He believed in purgatory, and said, "*I should not believe the gospel unless I was moved to do so by the authority of the Catholic Church.*" He believed the only true church was the Roman Catholic Church. Augustine said, "*The Catholic Church alone is the body of Christ...Outside of this body the Holy Spirit giveth life to no one.*"

This is the man that John Calvin based his understanding of the Bible on. According to Augustine anyone outside of the Catholic church is going to Hell. Did Calvin not realize that would include him?

What fundamental pastor with any spiritual understanding would have a man join his church and let him teach a Sunday School class who said he could write a confession of his faith based on what Augustine believed?

Calvin said -

"Any man who opposed infant baptism was accursed."

A YOUNG CONVERT FRESH OUT OF CATHOLICISM

Only two years after Calvin declared himself a "protestant" he had written his famous "*Institutes of The Christian Religion.*" He was only twenty-three years of age at the time. In all of Calvin's writing one will not find a clear testimony of his salvation experience. Assuming his vague testimony of salvation was a genuine salvation experience, he had been a Christian for only two years when he wrote his "*Institutes.*" Obviously his writings could not have come from a solid understanding of the Scriptures.

It is also noteworthy that during that two year period this man that is held in such high esteem by many

Calvin said - "*I should not believe the gospel unless I was moved to do so by the authority of the Catholic Church.*"

Christians today, helped a young woman gain entrance to a nunnery and kept himself on the payroll of the Catholic organization for at least a year (Dave Hunt - What Love Is This? Pg. 38).

JOHN CALVIN'S MANNER OF LIFE

Bernard Cottret has published a book entitled, "**Calvin: A Biography,**" (Eerdmans Pub. Company Grand Rapids, Michigan, copyright 2000). Cottret is a university professor who is neither a theologian nor an ordained minister. His book in many ways, portrays his own admiration for Calvin on some levels.

It is Cottret's favorable portrayal of Calvin that gives credit to the reality of the no less than thirty-eight executions recorded in his book. He documents the dates of each of John Calvin's despicable acts and shows that Calvin's methods included *imprisonment, torture, and execution by beheading and by burning at the stake.*

TWO EXAMPLES OF CALVIN'S WICKED SPIRIT

(Recorded In Most Secular Encyclopedias.)

Jacques Gruet, a known opponent of Calvin, was arrested and tortured twice a day for a month. Then, on July 16, 1547, he was tied to a stake, his feet were nailed to it, and he was beheaded. Calvin wrote, "*With God and His Sacred Scriptures before our eyes we say, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen: ...We condemn you, Jacques Gruet, to be taken to Champel and there have your body attached to a stake and burned to ashes and so you shall finish your days to give an example to others who would commit the like*" (July 26, 1547). Gruet's book was later found and burned along with his house while his wife was thrown out into the street to watch.



Michael Servetus, a scientist, a physician, and a Bible scholar was born in Villanova in 1511. He angered Calvin by returning a copy of Calvin's writings, with critical comments in the margins. Calvin drew up a doctrine of over thirty official charges against Servetus one of which was the

rejection of John Calvin's teaching concerning infant baptism leading to salvation.

Five days into the trial **Calvin wrote**, *"I hope the death sentence will at least be passed upon him."* Calvin got his wish on October 27, 1553. Servetus was burned at the stake. He was screaming as he was literally baked alive from the feet upward and suffered the heat of the flames for thirty minutes before finally succumbing to one of the most painful and brutal methods of death possible.



Servetus had written a theology book, a copy of which Calvin had strapped to the chest of Servetus. The flames from the burning book rose against his face as he screamed in agony.

Would John Calvin be welcome as a staff member, a deacon or even a member in any fundamental Baptist church today? Would you let a man like him baby-sit your children? **Why** then would anyone think that God would use such a man as Calvin to be a great leader of Christianity?

In First Corinthians 11:1 Paul said, *"Be ye followers (imitators) of me, even as I also am of Christ."* Was John Calvin an imitator of Christ in his actions? To answer yes to that question is nothing short of blasphemy.

CHRIST OUR EXAMPLE

Jesus said in Matthew 5:44, *"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you."*

Jesus was persecuted for over thirty years and finally crucified. In Luke 23:34 we read how Jesus responded to his enemies. He said, *"Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."* Jesus said, *"Love*

Jesus said, *"Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;"* (Matthew 5:44)

your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you." (Matthew 5:44) Jesus said, *"I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done."* (John 13:15)

EXAMPLES OF THE FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST

Stephen's persecutors did not write a note on the margin of his sermon outline, they were smashing his head in with rocks. He said, *"Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."* (Acts 7:60) When Peter, James, John, and Paul were persecuted they had no desire to strike back at their persecutors. They responded the way they did because they were all under the control of the Holy Spirit. *"The fruit of the Spirit is love."*

Bible Christians who are controlled by the Holy Spirit never hope the death sentence is passed upon their persecutors as did Calvin when people simply disagreed with him.

WHAT SPIRIT CONTROLLED JOHN CALVIN?

Obviously John Calvin was under the influence of some other spirit than the Holy Spirit. Galatians 5:22 gives us a list of the things that are the fruit of the Holy Spirit. First on the list is *"love."* You will have to look long and hard to find anything in Calvin's writings about love. It was certainly not obvious in his manner of life.

CALVINISTS CHANGE THE MEANING OF WORDS TO PROMOTE THEIR HERESY

The only way Calvinists can support their false doctrine is to give their own meaning to Bible words or take them out of context. When a Calvinist teaches *"whosoever will,"* he means whosoever *"God wills."* A. W. Pink wrote, *"The fact is that the love of God is for the saints only."* (Pink - Sovereignty - pg. 200) He said, *"John 3:16 must, in the final analysis, refer to the world of God's people."* (Pink - Sovereignty - pg. 204)

When a Calvinist talks about the *"sovereignty"* of God he has his own definition of the word *"sovereignty."* (As he does with the word *"depravity."*) The American Heritage Dictionary says, The sovereignty of God is, *"His absolute right to do all things according to His own good pleasure."*

God, in His sovereignty, in His absolute right to do all things according to His own good pleasure, has established some laws for mankind. For example, the Bible says, *“Except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish.”* God, in His sovereignty, has determined that He will not forgive sin unless the sinner repents.

Considering the word *“sovereignty”* is not in the Bible and considering the actual meaning of the word, rather than Calvin’s distorted meaning he needed to support his heresy, we see God is no less sovereign because He, according to his own good pleasure, gives man a free will making him capable of repenting of his sin and receiving Christ as his Saviour.

SEEKING A SOLUTION?

Again when Calvinist, A. W. Pink said, *“The ‘world’ in John 3:16 must, in the final analysis, refer to the world of God’s people.”* He continued, *“Must we say, for there is no alternative solution.”* The dictionary says, a solution is, *“An answer to a problem.”*



John 3:16 presents no problem unless you are a Calvinist needing a *“solution”* to support your position of heresy. The way a Calvinist solves his problem is to simply change the meaning of words in the Bible, and in the dictionary, to mean what they want to mean to support their FALSE DOCTRINE.

Calvinist writers have made many clear declarations that God has decreed everything that would happen in this world, from Adam’s sin to the doom of people in Hell. The only way they can maintain their sick theory is to change the words *“world”* and *“whosoever”* to *“elect.”* Since Calvinists can change these words in John 3:16 it must be right to change these words in John 15:18-19.

USING THE CALVINISTIC “SOLUTION” IN JOHN 15:18, 19

John 15:18-19 says, *“If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.”*

Using the Calvinist *“solution”* of changing the word *“world”* as they did in John 3:16 so that it means elect, John 15:18-19 would need to be translated, *“If the elect hate you, who are the elect, ye know that the elect hated me before the elect hated you who are elect. If ye elect were of the elect, the elect would love his own elect: but because ye elect are not of the elect, but I have chosen you elect out of the elect, therefore the elect hateth you elect who are elect.”*

This is a foolish translation of the verse, however, **it is no more foolish than the Calvinistic interpretation of John 3:16.**

The word *“world”* is found over 240 times in the Bible. A few times the Greek word obviously reveals different meanings, however, the word *“world”* never means Calvin’s so-called elect. Never!!! The only reason for rejecting the obvious, simple to understand meaning of the words *“whosoever”* or *“world”* in John 3:16, is to support Calvin’s heresy.

ALL MEANS ALL

Joshua 6:3 says, *“...all ye men of war.”*

Psalms 6:8 says, *“...all ye workers of iniquity.”*

Psalms 31:23 says, *“...all ye his saints.”*

Psalms 31:24 says, *“...all ye that hope in the LORD.”*

Psalms 32:11 says, *“...all ye that are upright in heart.”*

Psalms 134:1 says, *“...all ye servants of the LORD.”*

Romans 5:12 says, *“...all have sinned...”*

No Calvinist argues that, *“all”* means *“all”* in Romans 5:12 when it says, *“...all have sinned.”* The only reason to suggest *“all”* means something else in Acts 17:30, when God commands *“all men everywhere to repent,”* is because Calvinists needs a *“solution”* to support their heresy.

Listen to the double-talk of A. W. Pink when he says, *“When God commandeth ‘all men’ to repent is but the forcing of His righteous claims as the moral Governor of the world.”*

Then Pink continues with, *“This scripture does not declare that it is God’s pleasure to give repentance to all men everywhere.”* He uses Acts 5:31 totally out of context referring to God only giving *“repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins,”* to support his theory that God will not forgive *“all men everywhere.”* (Sovereignty - pg. 102)

Calvinists have their own special meaning for words. To a Calvinist total depravity means *“total inability.”*

MORE VERSES USING CALVINISM'S "SOLUTION" OF CHANGING OF WORDS

First John 2:2 says, "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

CALVINIST "SOLUTION" - *And he is the propitiation for the sins of the elect: and not for the elect only, but also for the sins of the elect.*

Ezra 8:22 says, "The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek him; but his power and his wrath is against all them that forsake him."

CALVINIST "SOLUTION" - *The hand of our God is upon all the elect for good that seek him; even though they have no free will to seek him, but his power and his wrath is against all the non-elect that forsake him, even though they are dead and have no free will to forsake him.*

Psalms 10:4 says, "The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God." Psalm 11:6 says, "Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone..."

CALVINIST "SOLUTION" - *The wicked, who are not among God's elect, through the pride of his countenance, pride that God put in his heart, cannot seek after God, however, even though God has withheld from them the ability to seek after God upon the wicked none-elect he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone...*

Psalms 13:5 says, "But I have trusted in thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice in thy salvation."

CALVINIST "SOLUTION" - *But I can't trust in thy mercy because I am dead and therefore not capable of trusting; my heart can't rejoice in thy salvation because I can't trust in thy mercy and besides I do not have any assurance that you included me in your mercy.*

CALVINIST TEACH ALL MEN ARE TOTALLY DEPRAVED

It is true that all people have a depraved and sinful nature and no person merits salvation. However, the word "total" means, "entirely, to the full." The word "depraved" means "morally corrupt." To suggest that all people in the world are "totally immoral" is ridiculous. None of the neighbours on the street where I live confess to be saved, but that does not make them totally immoral. The Bible speaks repeatedly of some people who are more corrupt than others.

Ezekiel 16:47 says, "...thou wast corrupted more than they..."

Judges 2:19 says, "...they corrupted themselves more than their fathers."

Jeremiah 7:26 says, "...they did worse than their fathers."

First Kings 16:25 says, "Omri...did worse than all that were before him."

However, we must remember that Calvinists have their own special meaning for words. To a Calvinist total depravity means "total inability." The dictionary meaning of inability is, "Not having the quality or state of being able to do something" Calvinism says that because all mankind is "dead in trespasses and sins" (Ephesians. 2:1-4), they cannot respond in any way to receive Christ as his Savior.

QUOTES FROM WELL-KNOWN CALVINISTS

1. Man "Cannot exercise faith in Jesus Christ." (Clark, *The Biblical Doctrine of Man*, p. 102)
2. Man "Is utterly incapable of willing anything." (Pink, *Sovereignty*, pg. 141)
3. "A corpse does not cry out for help." (Custance, *The Sovereignty of Grace*, p. 18)
4. "We have no more to do with our spiritual birth than we had with our natural birth." (Pink, *Sovereignty*, pg. 72)
5. "Even if what he does is simply to repent and believe the gospel, God's grace is seriously compromised." (Storms, *Chosen for Life*, p. 55)
6. "The sinner is of himself neither capable nor willing to receive salvation." (Hoeksema, *Whosoever Will*, p.14)
7. "The Bible stresses the total inability of fallen man to respond to the things of God." (Talbot & Crampton, *Calvinism, Hyper-Calvinism and Arminianism*, pg. 20)
8. "The sinner, of himself, cannot repent and believe." (Pink, *Sovereignty*, pg. 149)

CALVINISTS USE A FOOLISH ANALOGY TO SUPPORT THEIR THEORY

Ephesians 2:1 says, "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;" Calvinists say, "Since he is dead it is impossible for him to believe." **This is a foolish analogy!** The Bible is referring here to *spiritual* death not *physical* death. In Genesis 2:17 God warned Adam and Eve not to eat of the forbidden fruit. He said, "...for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." They ate but they did not die physically that day. They died spiritually. A person who is physically dead

cannot receive Christ as his Saviour, but neither can he speak, breathe, laugh, walk, live a righteous life or sin.

THE PHILIPPIAN JAILER

Acts 16:30 says the unsaved Philippian jailer asked Paul, "What must I do to be saved?" Paul did not say, "You can do nothing to be saved, you are dead." He said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."



Isaiah 1:18 says, "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." This is not written to physically dead people. A physically dead man cannot reason anything. It is written to spiritually dead, unsaved people concerning salvation. If a spiritually dead man is never capable of reasoning spiritual things, why would God command him to do so?

*"Come now, and let us
reason together, saith the
LORD."*

(Isaiah 1:18)

THE BIBLE GIVES MANY EXAMPLES OF SPIRITUALLY DEAD PEOPLE EXERCISING FAITH

A Roman Centurion Exercised Faith: (Matthew 8:10-13) "Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel"... Jesus said unto the centurion, "Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour."

A Father of A Demon Possessed Child Exercised Faith: (Mark 9:23) - Jesus said, "...all things are possible to him that believeth... And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe..." Jesus cast the demon out of the boy.

A Woman With A Disease Exercised Faith: (Matthew 9:20-22) - She said, "...If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole." Jesus said, "Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole."

Two Blind Men Exercised Faith: (Matthew 9:27-31) - "Jesus saith unto them, Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto him, Yea, Lord. Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you. And their eyes were opened..."

The Canaanite Mother Exercised Faith: (Matthew 15:22-28) - Jesus said, "O woman, great is thy faith: be It unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour."

A Blind Man Exercised Faith: (Luke 18:35-43) - "Jesus said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee. And immediately he received his sight..."

A Man Named Jarius Exercised Faith: (Luke 8:50-55) - Jesus said to Jarius, "Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole... her spirit came again, and she arose straightway..."

A Man Kicked Out of The Temple Exercised Faith: (John 9:35-38) - "Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee. And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him."

CALVINIST'S REVERSE GOD'S METHOD OF SALVATION

The Calvinist says a person must be born again before he can repent or believe. Jesus said in John 20:31 it was the opposite to that. He said, *"But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name."*



There is no doubt the Bible teaches man will not seek God on his own, but there is not a single verse in the Bible to indicate he is incapable of responding to the conviction of the Holy Spirit to repent of his sin and receive Christ as his personal Saviour.

Jesus said in John 6:44, *"No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him..."* however, unsaved people can exercise their will to disobey. Jesus said, in John 4:48, *"...ye will not believe."* He did not say ye cannot believe!

Jesus said in John 5:40, *"Ye will not come to Me, that ye might have life."* The Calvinist, to be consistent with his belief of man's inability to respond to the Gospel, will have to rewrite this verse to say, *"And ye will not have life that ye may come to me."* Either way, man is exercising his will, which is something Calvinists teach he is incapable of doing.

Jesus said in Matthew 23:37, *"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem . . . how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!"* Some Calvinists use John 6:44 to prove total inability. Here the Bible says, *"No man can come to me except the Father which hath sent me draw him..."* however, John 12:32 says, *"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."*

In Revelation 22:17, the last invitation in the Bible says, *"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."*

Acts 17:30 says that God *"...commandeth all men everywhere to repent."*

Romans 14:11-12 says, *"For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."*

Every person in this world has a God-given responsibility to repent and be saved and one day every man will be held accountable.

Jesus said in Luke 13:3 *"Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."* There is not a group of non-elect who will be able to say, *"Lord, I did not repent and trust Christ as Saviour because I was totally depraved and unable to believe."*

THE CALVINIST SOLUTION



If we translate the verse using the Calvinistic "solution" it would read, *"Except ye elect repent, ye elect shall all likewise perish except ye all w o n ' t perish because some of you are elect and are saved by God's irresistible grace."*

Second Peter 3:9 says the Lord is, *"...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."* God holds us responsible for our life on earth and we are commanded to repent of our sin and trust Christ as our Saviour.

Calvinists teach that man cannot repent or believe the Gospel until he is born again. They teach that this new birth is caused by God who chooses certain elect individuals and regenerates them making them capable of believing. They say man does not have a free will by which he is able to come to Christ for salvation.

Acts 11:18 says plainly that, *"... God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life."* Repentance comes first and the result of repentance is life. John 5:40 says, *"Ye will not come to Me, that ye might have life."* The coming is first, the life is second.

Will you believe the godly men who wrote under inspiration of the Holy Spirit, or will you believe a man filled with hatred for those who disagreed with him and who wrote what he wrote under the inspiration of the Catholic Bishop Augustine?

"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." (John 12:32)

Remember, Calvin said, *“Augustine is so wholly with me, that if I wished to write a confession of my faith, I could do so with all fullness from his writings.”*

THE BIBLE ALWAYS PUTS “BELIEVING” FIRST

John 3:15 -

*“Whosoever **believeth** in him should not perish, but have eternal **life**.”*

John 3:16 -

*“Whosoever **believeth** in him should not perish, but have everlasting **life**.”*

John 3:36 -

*“He that **believeth** on the Son hath everlasting **life**...”*

John 5:24

*“- He that heareth my word, and **believeth** ... hath everlasting **life**...”*

John 6:40

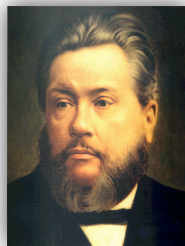
*“...every one which...**believeth** on him, may have everlasting **life**...”*

The Bible says, *“But these are written, that ye might **believe** that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that **believing** ye might have **life** through his name.”* (John 20:31)

Will you believe the Apostle John who wrote these verses under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit or Calvin who got his basic beliefs while he was yet a dedicated Roman Catholic?

SHOULD CALVINISTS USE C. H. SPURGEON TO SUPPORT THEIR HERESY?

Calvinists love to promote C. H. Spurgeon when wanting to find someone to help promote their false doctrine. Although Charles H. Spurgeon claimed to be a Calvinist, he very obviously did not believe all that Calvinists believe.



C.H. Spurgeon

He was criticized by Calvinists and even labeled Armenian for his sermon entitled, *“Compel Them To Come In.”*

Spurgeon said to his critics, *“My Master set His seal on that message. I never preached a sermon by which so many*

souls were won to God...If it be thought an evil thing to bid sinners to lay hold of eternal life, I will be more evil in this respect and herein imitate my Lord and His apostles.”

In the message *“Compel Them To come In”* Spurgeon said, *“Well brother, I have told you the message, what sayest thou unto it? Do you turn away?”* He said, *“Do you know what it is you are rejecting this morning? You are rejecting Christ, your only Saviour.”* Calvinistic doctrine teaches the total inability of anyone accepting or rejecting Christ.

Concerning man’s responsibility to repent, C. H. Spurgeon preached on Sunday morning, March 30, 1862. His message was entitled **“God’s Will And Man’s Will,”** Spurgeon referred to *“A class of strong-minded hard-headed men who magnify sovereignty at the expense of (human) responsibility.”*

C. H. SPURGEON’S COMMENTS ON FIRST TIMOTHY 2:4 UPSET CALVINISTS

First Timothy 2:4 *“Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.”* Spurgeon said, *“What then? Shall we try to put another meaning into the text than that which it fairly bears? I trow not. You must, most of you, be acquainted with the general method in which our older Calvinistic friends deal with this text. ‘All men,’ say they; is ‘some men’: as if the Holy Ghost could not have said ‘some men’, if he had meant some men. ‘All men,’ say they; ‘that is, some of all sorts of men’: as if the Lord could not have said ‘All sorts of men’ if he had meant that.”*

Spurgeon continued, *“The Holy Ghost by the apostle has written ‘all men,’ and unquestionably he means all men. I was reading just now the exposition of a very able doctor who explains the text so as to explain it away; he applies grammatical gunpowder to it, and explodes it by way of expounding it...My love of consistency with my own doctrinal views is not great enough to allow me knowingly to alter a single text of Scripture. I have great respect for orthodoxy, but my reverence for inspiration is far greater. I would sooner a hundred times over appear to be inconsistent with myself than be inconsistent with the word of God.”* (Met. Tabernacle Pulpit, 26: 49-52)

Spurgeon referred to *“A class of strong-minded hardheaded men who magnify sovereignty at the expense of (human) responsibility.”*

Spurgeon preached that all mankind are free to place their trust in Christ. When he preached salvation messages he always gave an invitation to everyone listening to him to trust Christ.

HOW SPURGEON ENDED SALVATION MESSAGES

The following list reveals only a few of C. H. Spurgeon's invitations given at the end of his messages for everyone listening to him to trust Christ. (Dates are when sermons were published)

Spurgeon message published March 9th, 1916 "... *Trust your souls with Jesus, and your souls are saved. He suffered in the room, and place, and stead of all that trust him. He stands in spirit among us at this good hour, and says, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden"*

Spurgeon message published December 5th, 1858 "...*I know is that my Master has sent me, to compel you to come in; so come along with you now. You may have rejected a thousand invitations; don't make this the thousandth-and-one. The invitation is, 'To-day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts as in the provocation,' for the Spirit saith 'to-day.' "Come now and let us reason together; why should you put it off? It may be the last warning you shall ever have."* John Calvin believed in "irresistible" grace. Spurgeon believed man could reject Christ.

Spurgeon message published 26th February, 1871 "...*Why will ye reject him? If ye seek him, he will be found of you." Oh! do seek him; reject him not..." Does this sound like Spurgeon really believed people could reject the Gospel?*

Spurgeon message published Sept. 10, 1871 "...*If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land. Receive the Lord Jesus as your Savior, now on the spot."* Spurgeon said, "*If ye be willing?"* Apparently, Spurgeon believed man had a free will.

Spurgeon ended his message Sermon No. 556 "The Sinner's Friend" - "*I do conjure you turn not away as though it were nothing to you; but believe on Him and you shall be saved. Trust your souls with Him and He will bring you to His Father's right hand in glory everlasting"* Does this sound like Spurgeon really believed unsaved people were totally depraved and therefore

unable to respond to the message of salvation? Spurgeon pleaded with the unsaved who heard this message to "*turn not away*," "*believe*" and "*trust*" Christ for salvation.

Spurgeon message published June 17th, 1868 "*Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.*" "... *Christ rejects no coming sinner...*" Obviously, Spurgeon did not really believe that God predestines Calvin's so-called non-elect to suffer in Hell.

Spurgeon message published August 19th, 1860 "...*And now, my dear hearers, have you repented of Sin? ... Thou must now repent, or else for ever smart for it. Turn or burn - it is the Bible's only alternative. If thou repentest, the gate of mercy stands wide open."* Does this sound like Spurgeon believed in salvations gate being opened for only Calvin's so-called elect?

Spurgeon message published February 12th, 1888 "...*If thou believest on Jesus Christ, and if thou wilt trust him, as the sent One of God, fully and entirely with thy soul, He will make thee clean."*

Spurgeon message published April 7th, 1889 "...*He is able to save to the uttermost, for he saved the dying thief. The case would not have been put there to encourage hopes which He cannot fulfill. ... I pray you, therefore, if any of you have not yet trusted in my Lord Jesus, come and trust in him now."*

Spurgeon message published January 27th, 1916 "...*Whoever you may be, He is able still to save... Trust Him. To believe is to live, and to believe means only and simply to trust, to depend upon. That is faith. Have confidence in Christ's sacrifice, and you are saved."*

Spurgeon message published Sept. 10th, 1871 "*He that with his heart believeth, and with his mouth maketh confession of him, shall be saved...*" He continued, "*The great command is, Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.' ...Trust in Him - in His substitutionary work for sinners. He bore their guilt, and was punished in their stead, and whosoever trusts in what He did, in a word, trusts in Him, is saved."*

Spurgeon message published on April 27th, 1916 "...*Come to Christ now..., lest rejecting him to-night we should be rejecting him for ever; lest refusing to trust him, we should be driven from his presence to abide in misery for ever!"*

Does this sound like Spurgeon believed man was unable to choose to trust Christ as his Saviour?

Spurgeon message published December 30th, 1915

I have told you His gospel, Believe and live, 'He that believeth on him is not condemned.' I again say to you, for your soul's sake, Refuse not Him that speaks from Heaven to you... Oh, that tonight you might seek, and that tonight you might find the Saviour."

Spurgeon message published August 26th, 1894

"Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." "Receive Christ, trust in him."

Spurgeon message published November 19th, 1876

"...Last of all, for any of you to reject the righteousness of Christ must be to perish everlastingly, because it cannot be that God will accept you or your pretended righteousness when you have refused the real and divine righteousness which he sets before you in his Son."

We could continue with quote after quote showing that although Spurgeon called himself a Calvinist, he certainly did not believe what Calvin planted in his TULIP garden.

CALVINISTS TEACH MAN DOES NOT HAVE A FREE WILL BY WHICH HE IS ABLE TO COME TO CHRIST

Genesis 1:26 says, "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness..." God is a Trinity and we were created as a trinity. Every person has a body, soul and spirit. (First Thessalonians 5:23) In verse seven the Bible says, "...man became a living soul." The soul is the inner person consisting of our mind, our will and our emotions. The spirit is the part that gives us a relationship with God.

GOD GAVE ADAM A COMMAND

Genesis 2:15-17 says, "And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat. But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

A. W. Pink's "The Sovereignty of God" page 141 says man "Is utterly incapable of willing anything." What does the Bible say? It says, "God commanded the man." If man was created without a free will there would be no need for this command or any other command found in the Scriptures.

In Genesis 3:6 we find Satan tempting Eve to disobey God. It says, "She took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat."

ADAM AND EVE MADE DECISIONS

Both Adam and Eve made a decision of their own free will to disobey God. To suggest, as the Calvinists do, that God forced them to sin, we would have to change the verse above from "Thou shalt not eat of it" to "I will make you eat of it." This is foolish and makes God the Author of sin. It is not only heresy, it is blasphemy!



God confronted Adam and asked, "Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?" Verse seventeen continues, "And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life."

Adam chose to listen to Eve rather than obey God. As a result of choosing to sin the spirit of man died, and therefore, must be "born again." Jesus went into much detail concerning being "born again" in John chapter three. The Bible plainly teaches that, when a person is convicted by the Holy Spirit to repent of his or her sin, a decision must be made. If man chooses to trust Christ as Saviour, the spirit of man is "born again." We read in Ephesians 2:1 "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins."

ADAM AND EVE SENT FROM THE GARDEN

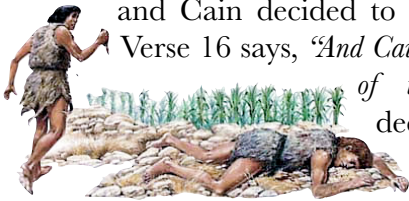
God sent Adam and Eve from the garden because they could have used their free will to eat of the tree of life and live in their sinful state forever. Verse 22-24 reads, "...and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till

the ground from whence he was taken. So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.”

There would have been no need for the Cherubims with the flaming sword if man did not have a free will. What kind of game do the Calvinists think God is playing?

CAIN AND ABEL MADE CHOICES

In Genesis four we read Abel decided to follow God and Cain decided to do things his own way. Verse 16 says, “*And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD.*” Cain also decided to persecute the one who followed God, even to the death. To say God put it in the heart of Cain to go out from the presence of the Lord and then kill his brother is wicked, ridiculous, and attacks the very character of God.



HOW CALVINISTS NEED TO INTERPRET THE CREATION ACCOUNT TO BE CONSISTENT

To support Calvin’s wicked theory we would need to change the creation account to read, “*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth...And God said, Let us make people with no free will. And then God said, We will trick them into thinking they have a free will by saying...of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat. But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. We will let them think they can choose to disobey.*”

Calvin’s distorted account would also need to say, “*Because they didn’t really have a free will God ordained it from the beginning for them to eat the fruit thereof. Then God confronted Adam and asked, Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?... Cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life.*” Concerning Cain and Abel, the story would need to be changed to read, “*God then forced Cain to kill his brother and put a curse upon him for doing it.*”

GOD COMMANDS PEOPLE TO TRUST HIM

Psalm 4:5 - “...put your trust in the LORD.”

Psalm 37:3 - “Trust in the LORD...”

GOD FORCES NOBODY TO TRUST HIM

Psalm 78:22 - “...trusted not in his salvation.”

Isaiah 47:10 - “...trusted in thy wickedness...”

Jeremiah 13:25 - “...trusted in falsehood.”

Jeremiah 48:7 - “...trusted in thy works ...”

Jeremiah 49:4 - “...trusted in her treasures...”

MAN IS COMMANDED TO SUBMIT

First Corinthians 16:16 - “...submit yourselves...”

Ephesians 5:22 - “...submit yourselves...”

Colossians 3:18 - “...submit yourselves...”

Hebrews 13:17 - “...submit yourselves...”

James 4:7 - “...submit yourselves...”

First Peter 2:13 - “...submit yourselves...”

First Peter 5:5 - “...submit yourselves...”

GOD FORCES NOBODY TO SUBMIT

Exodus 6:9 - “...they hearkened not...”

Exodus 16:20 - “...they hearkened not...”

First Samuel 2:25 - “...they hearkened not...”

Second Kings 21:9 - “...they hearkened not...”

Jeremiah 7:24 - “...they hearkened not...”

Jeremiah 7:26 - “...they hearkened not...”

Jeremiah 36:31 - “...they hearkened not...”

Jeremiah 44:5 - “...they hearkened not...”

MAN IS COMMANDED TO “REASON” ABOUT SALVATION

Isaiah 1:18 says, “Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.”

Matthew 16:7 says, “...they reasoned...”

Matthew 21:25 says, “...they reasoned...”

Mark 8:16 says, “...they reasoned...”

Mark 11:31 says, “...they reasoned...”

Luke 20:5 says, “...they reasoned...”

Luke 20:14 says, “...they reasoned...”

Mark 2:8 says, “...they reasoned...”

Acts 18:4 says, “...they reasoned...”

Acts 24:25 says, “...they reasoned...”

Acts 28:29 says, “...had great reasoning among themselves.”

AFTER REASONING, MAN HAS A FREE WILL TO COME TO HIS OWN DECISION

We read in Mark 2:6 that the scribes Jesus spoke to were, "...reasoning in their hearts..." Mark 7:9 tells us after their reasoning they made a decision. Jesus rebuked them for their decision saying, "...Ye reject the commandment of God..." Hosea 4:6 refers to those who "...rejected knowledge..." Second Kings 17:15 says, "...They rejected his statutes, and his covenant." Contrary to Calvinism, man can reason concerning salvation and man can reject salvation.

GOD COMMANDS MAN TO WALK IN HIS WAYS BUT HE FORCES NOBODY

Isaiah 30:21 says, "*This is the way, walk ye in it...*"

Psalms 81:12 says, "...they walked in their own counsels."

GOD COMMANDS MAN TO BE HOLY BUT HE FORCES NOBODY

Leviticus 20:7 "...be ye holy..."

Deuteronomy 9:12 - "...corrupted themselves..."

"According to Calvinism it might be your mother, your little boy, your daughter, your wife, and all the children in the church nursery that God will delight in sending to Hell. It might even be you! After all, praying "*Lord, be merciful to me a sinner*" is not going to get you to Heaven, if God has determined you are going to Hell!"

FREE WILL AND THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Exodus 20:3 - "*Thou shalt have no other gods before me.*"

Deuteronomy 17:3 - "...served other gods..."

Exodus 20:4 - "*Thou shalt not make ... any graven image.*"

Psalms 78:58 - "...their graven images."

Exodus 20:7 - "...not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain."

Psalms 139:20 - "*For they...take thy name in vain.*"

Exodus 20:8 - "*Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.*"

Nehemiah 13:17 - "...ye...profane the sabbath day?"

Exodus 20:12 - "*Honour thy father and thy mother.*"

Matthew 10:21 - "...rise up against their parents."

Exodus 20:13 - "*Thou shalt not kill.*"

Psalms 94:6 - "*They...murder the fatherless.*"

Exodus 20:14 - "*Thou shalt not commit adultery.*"

Jeremiah 23:14 - "...they commit adultery..."

Exodus 20:15 - "*Thou shalt not steal.*"

Ephesians 4:28 - "...steal no more..."

Exodus 20:16 - "*Thou shalt not bear false witness ...*"

Psalms 27:12 - "...false witnesses...against me."

Exodus 20:17 - "*Thou shalt not covet ...*"

Joshua 7:21 - "*I coveted them, and took them...*"

CALVIN'S TEACHING OF UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION

According to Calvinism, if we are to be saved, God chooses (elects) us to salvation. Calvinism teaches, "*A man is not saved because he believes in Christ; he believes in Christ because he is saved.*" In other words, "*The elect of God are chosen by Him to be His children, in order that they might be made to believe, not because He foresaw that they would believe.*" (Boettner, op. cit., page 101.)

MORE HERESY

By his unconditional election theory Calvin meant that some are elected to Heaven, while others are elected to Hell. It is wholly on God's part and we have nothing to do with our eternal destiny. This means God decided before we were born that we are going to burn in Hell forever or be in Heaven forever. We are simply a pawn in God's big chess game. Calvinism further teaches that God could be glorified by bringing your family into the world to torment them in Hell for eternity. **THIS IS WICKED!**

Lest you think I have misrepresented John Calvin, we will let him speak for himself. In his "Institutes," Book III, chapter 23, Calvin said, "...eternal life is foreordained for some, and eternal damnation for others. Every man, therefore, being created for one or the other of these ends, we say, he is predestined either to life or to death."

COULD GOD BE GLORIFIED SENDING YOUR MOTHER TO HELL?

According to Calvinism it might be your mother, your little boy, your daughter, your wife, and all the children in the church nursery that God will delight in sending to Hell. It might even be you! After all, praying "*Lord, be merciful to me a sinner*" is not going to get you to Heaven, if God has determined you are going to Hell!



Calvin said, "...eternal life is foreordained for some, and eternal damnation for others."

According to the Scriptures - Calvin & those who support this blasphemy are heretics.

“And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.” (Revelation 22:17)

CALVINISTS DISTORT SCRIPTURE BY USING ONLY PARTS OF VERSES

Calvinists like to quote part of Ephesians 1:4 to support their theory. The first part of the verse says, *“He hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world.”* However, the entire verse reads: *“According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.”* This verse says nothing about being chosen for Heaven or Hell. It speaks of how God has chosen for Christians to live.

Calvinists like to quote part of John 15:16, *“Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you...”* The entire verse reads: *“Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.”* This verse says nothing about being chosen for Heaven or Hell. It says God has chosen that Christians should bear fruit. The fruit of a Christian is other Christians. Proverbs 11:30 says, *“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.”*

The Bible says, in Acts 10:34 that, *“... God is no respecter of persons.”* That means your mother, your little boy, your daughter, your wife, and all the children in the church nursery and you are included when God closed out His Bible with the invitation, *“...whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”* (Revelation 22:17) The Bible also says in Second Peter 3:9 He is *“...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”*

First Timothy 2:4 refers to God, *“Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.”* Calvinists go to great lengths to destroy the plain meaning of this verse. They say, *“all”* doesn't mean

“all.” There is no end of their interpretations of this verse using their, *“This is what the Bible says, but this is what it means,”* system. (See Spurgeon's comments concerning this verse in this article.)

CALVINIST HERESY TEACHES SOME PEOPLE ARE PREDESTINED BY GOD TO BURN IN HELL

God has His controlling hand on the affairs of men. He selects individuals like Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and David as instruments to do certain things. God chose the nation of Israel for a specific purpose. God has chosen people like John the Baptist for a special purpose.

TO TEACH THAT GOD HAS PREDESTINED ANYONE TO BE BORN ONLY TO BURN IN HELL FOR ETERNITY IS HERESY!

Ephesians 1:3-4 says, *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.”*

Romans 8:29-30 says, *“For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.”*

To accept Calvin's position we would have to translate this verse to say, *“Whom he did unconditionally elect he also unconditionally elected.”*

Jesus said in Revelation 22:13, *“I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.”* Obviously then, He knows the beginning and the end. Simply put, God knows everything! You don't have to make something spooky about the subject of

God's foreknowledge, unless you are a Calvinist trying to support Calvinism. God in His foreknowledge knows who will trust Jesus Christ as Saviour, however, that does not mean He has to make the decision for them to be saved.

SALVATION IS FOR ALL

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men."

(Titus 2:11)

Revelation 22:17 says, "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Romans 10:13 says, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Titus 2:11 says, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men." John 12:32 says, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." 2 Peter 3:9 tells us, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." Romans 5:12 says, "...all have sinned."

Acts 17:30 says, "God...commandeth all men every where to be saved."

TO TEACH THAT GOD'S LOVE IS LIMITED IS TO TEACH HERESY

The basic Calvinist theory of limited atonement is that the death of Christ on Calvary's cross was limited for only those they call the "elect." This means it would be impossible to tell a sinner who was not one of their so-called elect that Christ died for them. The teaching of Calvin concerning limited atonement means that God ordained some people for Heaven and ordained the rest to suffer in Hell for eternity. **This is a wicked attack on the character of God who tells us in many verses in the Bible that Christ died for everyone!**

First John 2:2 tells us that, "He (Christ) is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." To use the Calvinist "solution" to support Calvinism by changing the word "world" to elect this verse would read, "Christ is the propitiation for the elect's sins: and not for the elect's only, but also for the sins of the elect." Timothy 2:6 plainly says Christ, "...gave himself a ransom for all..." ALL MEANS ALL!!!

THE WORD "WORLD" MEANS WORLD

John 1:29 says, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

As previously mentioned Calvinist, A. W. Pink says, "The 'world' in John 3:16 must, in the final analysis, refer to the world of God's people. Must we say, for there is no alternative solution." The only "solution" for a Calvinist, if he is going to support his heresy with Scripture, is to change the meaning of words in the Scriptures.

John 3:17 says, "For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." It does not say, God sent not his Son into the

The only "solution" for a Calvinist, if he is going to support his heresy with Scripture, is to change the meaning of words in the Scriptures.

elect to condemn the elect, that the elect through him might be saved.

First John 2:2 says, "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." What part of "the whole world" is too difficult to understand?

First John 4:14 says, "And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world."

TO TEACH WE DO NOT ABLE TO CHOOSE OR REFUSE IS RIDICULOUS

A FEW VERSES ABOUT CHOOSING

Genesis 13:11 - "Lot **chose** him all the plain of Jordan."
 First Samuel 13:2 - "Saul **chose** him three thousand men."
 Exodus 17:9 - "**Choose** us out men, and go out, fight."
 Hebrews 11:25 - "**Choosing** to suffer affliction."
 Joshua 24:15 - "...**Choose** you this day whom ye will serve."
 Proverbs 1:29 - "They did not **choose** the fear of the LORD."

The word "choose" is in the Bible over sixty times and the word always means choose! Cults and Calvinism can only survive when they say the Bible is saying something different than it is saying. "**When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense seek no other sense lest it all become nonsense.**"

A FEW VERSES ABOUT REFUSING

Nehemiah 9:17 - "...**refused** to obey."
 Psalm 78:10 - "...**refused** to walk in his law."
 Proverbs 1:24 - "I have called, and ye **refused**."
 Jeremiah 11:9-10 - "...**refused** to hear ..."
 Zechariah 7:11 - "...**refused** to hearken,"
 Genesis 37:35 - Jacob, "...**refused** to be comforted."
 First Samuel 8:19 - "The people **refused** to obey."
 Psalm 78:10 - "...**refused** to walk in his law."
 Proverbs 1:24 - "I have called, and ye **refused**."
 Hebrews 12:25 - "See that ye **refused** not him that speaketh."
 Hebrews 11:24 - "Moses, **refused** to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter."



The words "refuse" or "refused" are found in the Bible over fifty times. To suggest the Bible teaches that man does not have the ability to make decisions is foolish. If God has not given man a free will, what kind of head games do the Calvinists think God is playing with people?

CALVINISTS TEACH WE DO NOT HAVE THE ABILITY TO BELIEVE

VERSES ON BELIEVING

John 1:12 - "...even to them that **believe** on his name."
 John 20:31 - "But these are written, that ye might **believe** ..."
 John 20:31 - "...that **believing** ye might have life ..."
 First Corinthians 1:21 - "...them that **believe** ..."
 Hebrews 10:39 - "...them that **believe** ..."
 John 3:18 - "He that **believeth** on him is not condemned: but he that **believeth not** is condemned already, because he hath not **believed** in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

Jesus never preached saying, "I am going to die for some of you and the rest of you only came into the world so my Father could be glorified in sending you to Hell."

CALVINISTS TEACH THAT GOD'S GRACE IS IRRESISTIBLE

Psalm 78:22 says God's anger was kindled, "Because they **believed not** in God, and trusted not in his salvation."
 Psalm 78:32 says, "...they sinned still, and **believed not**."
 Psalm 106:24 says, "...they **believed not** this word."
 John 12:37 says, "...yet they **believed not** on him."
 Acts 17:5 tells of, "...the Jews which **believed not**."
 Acts 19:9 says some, "...were hardened, and **believed not**."
 Acts 28:24 says, "And some believed the things which were spoken, and some **believed not**."

MAN'S FREE WILL IS

ACCORDING TO GOD'S GOOD PLEASURE

Remember, the Sovereignty of God simply means, "God's absolute right to do all things according to his own good pleasure." Ephesians 1:5 says, "Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will." The Bible is very plain that it was, "...according to the good pleasure of his will" to give man a free will and in so doing it did not interfere with His sovereignty.

His good will here deals with the plan of salvation, It is, "...by Jesus Christ." Acts 4:12 says, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Ephesians 1:5 is not referring to who will be saved but rather how they will be saved.

Acts 10:34 plainly says, "God is no respecter of persons." First Timothy 2:4 says God wants, "all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." 1 Timothy 2:6 tells us Christ, "...gave himself a ransom for all..."

A CONTRADICTION OF TERMS

The very title of "Irresistible Grace," is a contradiction of terms. If it is irresistible, it is not grace. Proverbs 1:24-25 says, "Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof." God called and man ignored Him. God stretched out His

"The very title of 'Irresistible Grace,' is a contradiction of terms. If it is irresistible, it is not grace."

hand and no man regarded. His counsels were refused as were His reproofs.

Numbers 14:18 says, *"The LORD is longsuffering..."*
 Psalm 103:8 says, *"The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy."* John 5:40 says, *"And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life."*

Acts 7:51 says, *"Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye."* Calvinists need to learn before they build a doctrine on words that are not in the Bible to at least look into a dictionary for the meaning of the words they decide to use. Irresistible means, *"impossible to resist."*

Proverbs 29:1 states, *"He, that being often reprov'd hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy."* God's justice requires being reprov'd once. God's grace is man is reprov'd repeatedly, which also means he resisted repeatedly.

Proverbs 1:24-26 says, *"Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded."*

John 5:40 says, *"Ye will not come to me, that ye may have life."*

To be scripturally correct, if the Calvinists wants to build a false doctrine by putting a word in front of the word "grace," they will have to call it "Resistible Grace." There is not one passage of Scripture from Genesis to Revelation that teaches that God's grace is irresistibly bestowed on anyone. God forces nobody to get saved.

GOD FORCES NOBODY TO BELIEVE

Psalm 78:22-*"...they believed not in God..."*

Psalm 106:24-*"...they believed not his word..."*

John 6:64-*"...some of you that believed not."*

John 10:25-*"...ye believed not..."*

John 12:37-*"...yet they believed not on him..."*

Acts 9:26-*"...believed not..."*

Acts 17:5-*"...the Jews which believed not..."*

Acts 19:9-*"...were hardened, and believed not..."*

Second Thessalonians 2:12-*"...believed not the truth..."*

Hebrews 11:31-*"...them that believed not..."*

Jude 1:5-*"...them that believed not..."*

Acts 28:24-*"And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not."*

CALVINISM'S PERSEVERANCE

The word perseverance is found only once in the Scriptures. Ephesians 6:18 commands the believer to be, *"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints."* This verse is speaking of perseverance in prayer and has nothing to do with persevering unto salvation. The dictionary meaning as well as the meaning of the Greek word here is, *"Adhering to a course of action."*

CALVIN'S PERSEVERANCE IS NOT ETERNAL SECURITY

Many Christians wrongly assume that the Calvinist theory of the "perseverance of the saints" is synonymous with the doctrine of eternal security. The Biblical doctrine of eternal security teaches that one who has been truly saved by God's grace is kept eternally saved by God's grace. God has not left our eternal destiny in our ability to persevere. For God to do that would result in a salvation by works.

Calvin wrote, *"Those who do not persevere unto the end belong not to the calling of God."* He said, *"What they (The Christians at Corinth) had attained so far is nothing, unless they keep steadily on; because it is not enough that they once started off on the way of the Lord, if they do not make an effort to reach the goal."* (Calvin's Calvinism page 41)

Calvinist, A. W. Pink taught, *"If there is a reserve in your obedience, you are on the road to Hell."* (Practical Christianity - Grand Rapids Guardian Press - 1974, page 16)

OTHER CALVINISTS WRITE

John Otis - *"Maintaining an unforgiving spirit will surely destroy our souls in hell."* (Who is the Genuine Christian? Page 23)

W. Pink -

"Holiness in this life is such a part of our 'salvation' that it is a necessary means to make us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in heavenly light and glory." (The Doctrine of Sanctification (Great Britain: Christian Focus Pubs., 1998, p. 25.)

Dr. John Murray -

"Let us appreciate the doctrine of the perseverance of the saints and recognize that we may entertain the faith of our security in Christ only as we persevere in faith and holiness to the end." (Redemption Accomplished and Applied, p. 155)

Acts 7:51 says, *"Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: Calvinist say it is, 'Impossible to resist.'"*

DID THE MAN GOD USED TO WRITE OVER FIFTY CHAPTERS OF THE BIBLE NOT PERSEVERE?

First Kings 11:4 - *"For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods...his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel...he kept not that which the LORD commanded."* The man whom God used to write Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon turned away from God into idolatry and apostasy.

A. W. Pink said, *"If there is a reserve in your obedience, you are on the road to Hell."* (Practical Christianity, Grand Rapids, Guardian Press, 1974, p. 16) How do Calvinists put this all together? Would they have us believe God predestined an unsaved man to write Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon and then when He was finished with him sent him to Hell? Are some still wondering why we call Calvinism heresy?

THE SAINTS AT CORINTH DIDN'T PERSEVERE

First Corinthians 1:2 tells us this letter was written, *"Unto the church."* It says they were *"saints."* How does Calvin's perseverance of the saints fit in with these saints God repeatedly referred to as *"carnal"*?

WHAT ABOUT CHURCH DISCIPLINE?

First Corinthians 5:13 commands the saints at the local church in Corinth to, *"...put away from among yourselves that wicked person."*

Second Thessalonians 3:14-15 says, *"And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother."* The Bible has many examples of believers who did not persevere according to John Calvin's theory.

Second Chronicles 7:14 says. *"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."*

Noah got drunk.

Abraham was a liar.

Jacob was a schemer.

Samson failed.

Saul turned away from God.

David fell into sin.

John Mark quit.

Peter cursed and denied Christ.

All the Disciples forsook Jesus.

The list goes on and on.

According to Calvinist A. W. Pink said, *"If there is a reserve in your obedience, you are on the road to Hell,"* That means all these people were on the road to Hell!

JOHN CALVIN HAD NO ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

Even John Calvin did not possess assurance of salvation. Writing in his will shortly before his death in 1564 he declared, *"I testify also and profess that I humbly seek from God, that He may so will me to be washed and purified by the great Redeemer's blood, shed for the sins of the human race, that it may be permitted me to stand before His tribunal under the covert of the Redeemer Himself."* (Norman F. Douty, The Death of Christ, Rev. and Enlarged (Irving, TX: Williams & Watrous Pub. Co., 1978, p. 176.)

John 3:36 says, *"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."* Calvin taught he could not believe unless God first regenerated him and gave him faith to believe. It is not surprising therefore, that Calvin or any Calvinist cannot have an assurance of salvation and therefore, he must adhere to his *"perseverance of the saints"* theory.

No Calvinist can be sure of his salvation because he might be predestined to think he is saved. After all, playing little head games with people would not be wrong for Calvin's god since Calvin's god is glorified by sending billions of people to Hell for eternity.

MORE CALVINISTS ON PERSEVERANCE

John Murray - *"We may entertain the faith of our security in Christ only as we persevere in faith and holiness to the end."* How much holiness? Are we talking about sinless perfection?

Charles Hodge, referring to evidence of being elected *"...is a patient continuance in well doing."* (Charles Hodge, St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans 1860, reprinted., Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1950, p. 212.)

John Murray - *"The perseverance of the saints reminds us very forcefully that only those who persevere to the end are truly saints."*

John MacArthur - *"You may be a spiritual defector who hasn't defected yet."* (Congdon, - Journal of the Grace Evangelical Society, Autumn 1995 -- Volume 8:15)

“I WAS TERRIFIED!”

R. C. Sproul, a well-known Calvinist in an article entitled "Assurance of Salvation," wrote: *"A while back I had one of those moments...suddenly the question hit me: 'R.C., what if you are not one of the redeemed? What if your destiny is not heaven after all, but hell?' Let me tell you that I was flooded in my body with a chill that went from my head to the bottom of my spine. I was terrified."* There is not a person in the world who believes what John Calvin taught who should not be terrified concerning the reality of his salvation.

Sproul continued, *"...I began to take stock of my life, and I looked at my performance. My sins came pouring into my mind, and the more I looked at myself, the worse I felt. I thought, 'Maybe it's really true. Maybe I'm not saved after all.' Then I remembered John 6:68. Jesus had been giving out hard teaching, and many of His former followers had left Him. When He asked Peter if he was also going to leave, Peter said, 'Where else can we go? Only You have words of eternal life.' In other words, Peter was also uncomfortable, but he realized that being uncomfortable with Jesus was better than any other option."*

Uncomfortable with Jesus? A. W. Pink's "solution" for supporting Calvinism is to change the meaning of words to support his theory, Sproul's "option" is to be "uncomfortable with Jesus," which he considered "better than any other option." It is very difficult to understand why any Christian with a basic understanding of the Scriptures would accept the heresy known as Calvinism.

There is not a person in the world who believes what John Calvin taught who should not be terrified concerning the reality of his or her salvation.

BABES IN CHRIST

First Corinthians 3:1 tells us the carnal Christians in the local church at Corinth were, *"babes in Christ."* A close study of this chapter reveals they were

considered spiritually retarded but they were in the family of God.

CALVIN TAUGHT THAT GOD ORDAINED ADAM TO SIN

Calvin said, *"That the Fall of Adam was not by accident, nor by chance; but was ordained by the secret counsel of God."* He said, *"The first man fell because the Lord deemed it meet that he should."* (Institutes Book 3.23)

OTHER CALVINISTS TEACH THAT GOD ORDAINED SIN

Edwin Palmer said, *"God has ordained sin. God is back of everything. He decides and causes all things to happen that do happen, ... even sin."* (Edwin H. Palmer, foreword to The Five Points of Calvinism - Baker Books, enlarged, 20prtg, 1980 - cited in Hunt, 221)

L.Boettner said, *"God created the very thoughts and intents of the soul."*

R.C. Sproul said, *"God desired for man to fall into sin... God created sin."* (R.C. Sproul, Almighty Over All Baker Book House, 1999), 54, cited in Hunt, 221.)

A. W. Pink said, *"God had also foreordained sin should enter the world."* (The Sovereignty of God - Appendix B, The Case of Adam.)

THINK IT THROUGH!

Should anyone question why we refer to Calvinism as heresy? According to the blasphemy above, God "desired" David to commit adultery. Deut. 5:21 says man should not, *"desire thy neighbour's wife,"* but God desired David to desire his neighbour's wife. **If that is not heresy what does one have to teach to teach heresy?**

God "desired" people to be, *"Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, and disobedient to their parents."* as listed in Romans 1:30. **If that is not heresy what does one have to teach to teach heresy?**

God "desired" the perverts in Genesis 19:5 to come in an attempt to rape the angels that visited Lot. God "desired" Amnon to rape his sister in Second Samuel 13:2. **If that is not heresy what does one have to teach to teach heresy?**

According to Calvinism, God "desired" every child that was molested to be abused. He desired every person murdered to be murdered. He desired

every sin that was ever committed to be committed. **If that is not heresy what does one have to teach to teach heresy?**

Pink and those who support Calvinism have wasted much paper attempting to get around the fact that they are really saying God is the Author of sin. However, if God foreordained sin, He foreordained sin! The dictionary says to foreordain is to “*appoint in advance.*” Any child that can read can understand what Calvin said when he said, “*That the Fall of Adam was not by accident, nor by chance; but was ordained by the secret counsel of God.*”

CAN A CHRISTIAN BE A HERETIC?

The only time the Bible uses the word heretic it is talking about a Christian. Titus 3:10 says, “*A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject.*” Chapter 1:13 says, “*...rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;*” Chapter two and three continue with order in the local church including the teaching of, “*sound doctrine.*” Chapter 3:10 says, “*A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject.*”

Second Thessalonians 3:14-15 says, “*And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.*” What part of “*rebuke,*” “*reject,*” and “*have no company with him,*” is too difficult to understand?

Romans 16:17 says, “*Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.*”

It doesn't say don't worry about this heresy when they are your friends. It doesn't say allow them to infiltrate your churches and Bible colleges and teach their heresy.

CARNAL FUNDAMENTALISTS

First Corinthians 3:4 says, “*For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?*” **Verse 3** says, “*For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?*” Their carnality rested in the fact that they called themselves after the names of the preachers they admired.

When the Corinthian Christians promoted “*Apollosism*” or “*Paulism*” 2000 years ago, they were carnal. God has not changed His mind about this. We will have to admit it is carnal to promote “*Calvinism*” or any other “*ism.*”

IN CONCLUSION

This material is not designed as an in-depth study but rather a simple and short discussion of the issue of Calvinism. We must face the issue of Calvinism because it destroys some of the most important points of biblical truth, including God's love, mercy and justice.

There are some Calvinists who will argue that we have misrepresented Calvinism. The problem is some people are Calvin Calvinists, others are Thomas Fuller Calvinists, Arthur W. Pink Calvinists, Presbyterian Calvinists, Baptist Calvinists and the lists goes on. We are obviously going to misrepresent somebody's version of Calvinism.

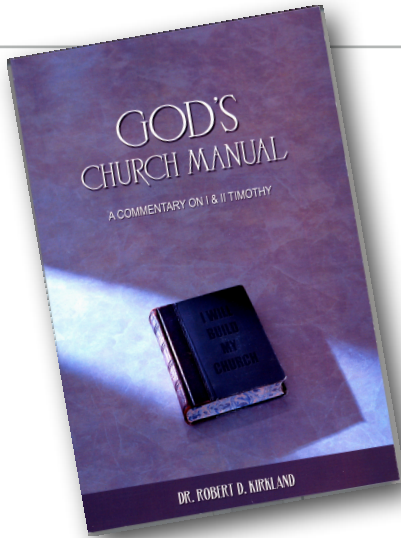
Many people who call themselves Calvinists have never read Calvin's Institutes of Christian Religion for themselves. They are merely following someone who taught them something about his brand of Calvinism. Some preachers have taken a few classes in a Bible college on Calvinism and then spend the rest of their lives supporting it because they liked the professor who presented it.

Some Calvinists call themselves three or four point Calvinists. That is about as foolish as calling yourself a two point Catholic because Catholics believe what the Bible says about the virgin birth and are against abortion.

To those Calvinist followers who may be upset concerning any of my statements in this article; you should not be upset, because, according to Calvinism, I was foreordained by God to write it all.

Local Church Ministries

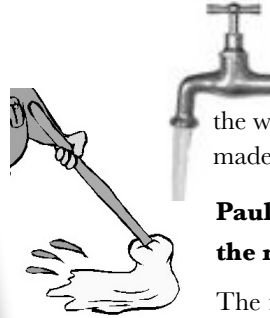
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There is a test for the mentally handicapped designed to check on their mental improvement. A tap is opened, running water on the floor. The slow-learner is handed a mop. If he turns off the water before he begins mopping the floor, they know they have made some progress.

Paul begins First Timothy by telling the pastor to clean up the mess in the church before doing anything else.

The first time we find Christ upset about sin, it had to do with sin in His "Father's house."

The Lord did not design a promotion to increase the attendance. The Bible says, "He drove them out of the temple." He was not concerned about getting money from them, "He poured out the changer's money."

One of the reasons carnality is flooding our churches is because we have left the tap of apostasy running while trying to organize the church.



GOD'S CHURCH MANUAL deals with when to whip and when to weep. It is a very frank discussion of the mess the fundamental, independent Baptist movement is in and it deals with how to solve the problem. "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?" (1 Peter 4:17)

L.C.M. Is An Outreach Ministry of FairHavens Baptist Church

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"WORK THE WORKS"

The FairHavens Baptist Church in Sarnia, Ontario, has been my God-given privilege for nearly fourteen years. Over those years we have seen the attendance grow and we have seen it dwindle.

In John 6:28, those who followed Christ asked, "What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?" He told them and in verse sixty-six we read, "From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him."

Jesus was just as successful in verse sixty-six as He was in verse two when "a great multitude followed him."

If He had soft-peddled the message to keep the multitudes, He would have been a compromiser, as is any pastor who refuses to preach all the counsel of God today.

In verse sixty-seven, the first time we read of, "the twelve," Christ asked the question, "Will ye also go away?" It was a question that demanded a choice.

"My thoughts...your thoughts"

We are prone to think that success is having a large number of people in a building and calling it church.

God said, "My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways." (Isaiah 55:8)

"Working the works of God," has nothing to do with having a large

group of people, who are not really interested in "working the works of God," sitting in a building on Sunday morning.

Jesus had "great multitudes," following and then He had "the twelve." In the small group eleven out of the twelve were really interested in working the works of God. In the large group none were interested.

"Few There Be"

In Matthew seven, when Jesus talked about walking "the narrow way," He was talking to Christians. In verse twelve He said, "...great is your reward in heaven." In previous verses He said, "Ye are the salt of the earth." (v.12) He called them, "the light of the world." (v.13) In verse sixteen He referred to their "Father which is in heaven."

It was concerning the faithful few that Jesus said, "...narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." (Matthew. 7:14) It has not changed in 2000 years. To preach like Jesus preached is to find that the majority of people who call themselves Christians will walk no more with you.

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