

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.

No Choice vs Free Will?



Why we aren't Calvinists.

Our goal is to be Bible believers.

Our only options are?

- Calvinism vs. Armenianism?
- God's sovereignty vs. Man's free will?
- The eternal security of the believer vs. a salvation you can lose?

We want to hold a biblical position instead of relying on a man's view of the Bible doctrine.

KEY: A plain and literal view of the Text is best.

We don't want to be guilty of having to force our theology onto the plain words of Scripture in order to change their clear meaning.

We reject Calvin's doctrine

- It can be summed up in the acronym TULIP.
- TULIP: Beautiful flower – bad theology.



TULIP

- Total depravity of man. Most would agree! Ro 3:10-12, Jer 17:9
- Calvinists mean "total depravity" to be "utter inability."
- False teaching: God has to regenerate you (save you) BEFORE you can believe.
- **What the Bible says...**
Is 53:6, Ac 17:30, Ro 10:16-17, 1 Pe 1:23



TULIP

○ Unconditional Election

○ The Calvinist says, "To reject (Calvinistic) election is to reject salvation by grace and promote salvation by works.

○ **What the Bible says...**

Ep 2:8-9, Jos 24:15, 1 Ki 18:21, etc...



TULIP

- Limited Atonement

- The Calvinist says that Christ didn't die for everyone - just the elect only.

- **What the Bible says...**

Jo 3:16, 1 Jo 2:1-2, 5:19, 1 Ti 2:4-6,
He 2:9, etc...

- H. A. Ironside – “It has been well said that the “Whosoever wills are the elect, and the whosoever won'ts are the non-elect”



TULIP

- Irresistible Grace
- Calvinists deny the will of man.
God is the cause of EVERYTHING.
- Wait. God's GRACE is forced on man?
- **What the Bible says...**
Ep 2:8-9



TULIP

- Perseverance of the saints
- It is true “once saved always saved!”
- o But the Calvinist’s assurance that he is one of God’s elect is based upon his performance!

○ **What the Bible says...**

Jo 3:15-16, 5:24, 1 Jo 5:11-13



The problem.

- The Gospel isn't supposed to be this complicated!
- Little children should be able to understand it! 2 Tim 3:15
- Why are we so confused?

The history and result of a Calvinistic (Augustinian) doctrinal viewpoint.

- Augustine's theology forms the basis for Calvinism.
- Calvinistic doctrine is Reformed.
 - babies are baptized for salvation.
 - Allegorical interpretation.
 - those rejecting Calvinistic doctrine were persecuted.



- Calvin believed it was ok to persecute or kill “heretics...”
...so he did.
- Key: what you believe effects how you live!
- At least 60 were burned at the stake under Calvin.
- Hundreds were imprisoned, tortured and persecuted under him.

○ God is love.

Ps 86:15, 145:8-9, 1 Cor 13:4-8

○ God is not willing that any perish!

2 Pe 3:9, 1 Ti 2:1-4, Rom 9:1-3

The Gospel is simple.

- God chose us, and predestined us to all spiritual blessings before the foundation of all creation. Why?
- Because He saw us respond to His invitation to choose Christ, His sacrifice, His Gospel.
- We are “elect” according to the foreknowledge of God.
- To foreknow is not the same thing as to foreordain!