

Calvinism, Arminianism, and the Truth

Calvinism, Arminianism, and the Truth

The Controversy about Salvation

You should clearly grasp these two terms.

They are commonly used in some circles.

They are used less with today's ignorance.

They help identify one's view of salvation.

**There is more to this
topic than our short
review tonight.**

See links at end.


The Names Come from Two Men



John Calvin (1509-1564)



James Arminius (1560-1609)



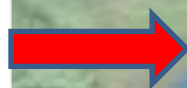
**Never write
Armenian for
Arminian!**



Is a pen a pin?



**An Armenian is
a person from
Armenia!**





**Is a Nazarite a
Nazarene?**

Not even close!

The Names Come from Two Men



John Calvin (1509-1564)



James Arminius (1560-1609)

**If you want to know
more about the
two men ...**

Google them!


Calvinism was the state religion in Holland.

The Arminians in 1610 confronted the state.

They wrote five points against Calvinism.

The five points summarize the controversy.

Now known as the five points of Calvinism.



**Only the well-read
know the extent of
this controversy.**

It has divided ...

**nations,
denominations,
churches,
families.**



Five Points

≠

Five Phases

TOTAL DEPRAVITY

UNCONDITIONAL
ELECTION

LIMITED ATONEMENT

IRRESISTIBLE GRACE

PERSISTENCE OF
THE SAINTS





TOTAL DEPRAVITY
UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION
LIMITED ATONEMENT
IRRESISTIBLE GRACE
PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS

TULIP : THE FIVE POINTS OF CALVINISM

T^otal Depravity

Uⁿconditional Election

Lⁱimited Atonement

I^rresistible Grace


P^erseverance of the Saints





Here is a Table:

<http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/calvinism-arminianism-chart.pdf>



**Thank you,
Calvinists,
for showing
us some truth!**

Our Early Calvinist Helpers

Jonathan Edwards

Loraine Boettner

John Owen

Arthur Pink

John Gill

John Brine

Spurgeon

TOTAL DEPRAVITY

UNCONDITIONAL
ELECTION

LIMITED ATONEMENT

IRRESISTIBLE GRACE

PERSEVERANCE OF
THE SAINTS



Total Depravity

ARMINIANISM

- Man sinned in Eden.
- But he still has a free will.
- He can choose to obey God.
- He can respond to truth.
- He obeys first to be saved.

CALVINISM

- Man sinned / died in Eden.
- His nature is totally corrupt.
- He cannot / will not obey.
- God's truth is foolish to him.
- He must have a new nature.

**We always disagree
with Arminianism,
because it is not
in the Bible!**



**We agree with
Calvinism here,
because it is
in the Bible!**

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.

Genesis 2:17

And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

Genesis 3:4

Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin
did my mother conceive me.

Psalms 51:5

**The wicked are estranged from the womb:
they go astray as soon as they be born,
speaking lies.**

Psalm 58:3

1 The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.

2 The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God.

3 They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

Psalm 14:1-3

**10 As it is written, There is none righteous,
no, not one:**

**11 There is none that understandeth, there
is none that seeketh after God.**

**12 They are all gone out of the way, they are
together become unprofitable; there is none
that doeth good, no, not one.**

18 There is no fear of God before their eyes.

Romans 3:10-12,18

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

I Corinthians 2:14

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

Romans 8:7-8

Let favour be shewed to the wicked, yet will
he not learn righteousness: in the land of
uprightness will he deal unjustly, and will
not behold the majesty of the LORD.

Isaiah 26:10

And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Luke 16:31

Unconditional Election

ARMINIANISM

- God loves all men equally.
- He wants to save them all.
- He chose the ones believing.
- He would not do otherwise.
- He elected those that chose.

CALVINISM

- God loves only some men.
- He will save all of them.
- He chose by His own will.
- Otherwise none are saved.
- His choice is the basis for all.

**We always disagree
with Arminianism,
because it is not
in the Bible!**



**We agree with
Calvinism here,
because it is
in the Bible!**

**And we know that all things work together
for good to them that love God, to them
who are the called according to his purpose.**

Romans 8:28

**Who shall lay any thing to the charge of
God's elect? It is God that justifieth.**

Romans 8:33

(For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)

Romans 9:11

**21 Hath not the potter power over the clay,
of the same lump to make one vessel unto
honour, and another unto dishonour?**

**22 What if God, willing to shew his wrath,
and to make his power known, endured with
much longsuffering the vessels of wrath
fitted to destruction:**

**23 And that he might make known the
riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy,
which he had afore prepared unto glory,**

Romans 9:21-24

What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded

Romans 11:7

**4 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:**

**5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption
of children by Jesus Christ to himself,
according to the good pleasure of his will,**

Ephesians 1:4-5

In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

Ephesians 1:11

Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

II Timothy 1:9

But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

II Thessalonians 2:13

**As thou hast given him power over all flesh,
that he should give eternal life to as many as
thou hast given him.**

John 17:2

And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

Acts 13:48

Limited Atonement

ARMINIANISM

- God loves all men equally.
- Jesus died for all their sins.
- His death did not save any.
- Men must accept His death.
- Men go to hell for unbelief.

CALVINISM

- God loves only the elect.
- Jesus died for all their sins.
- He was a substitute for each.
- They obtain all the benefits.
- Not one can ever be lost.

**We always disagree
with Arminianism,
because it is not
in the Bible!**



**We agree with
Calvinism here,
because it is
in the Bible!**

**The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou
hatest all workers of iniquity.**

Psalm 5:5

And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Matthew 7:23

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Matthew 1:21

38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

John 6:38-39

**I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd
giveth his life for the sheep.**

John 10:11

26 But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.

27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

John 10:26-29

For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

Romans 5:10

For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

Romans 5:19

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ
also loved the church, and gave himself for
it;

Ephesians 5:25

And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

Hebrews 9:15

Irresistible Grace (1)

ARMINIANISM

- The Spirit convicts all men.
- Some obey for regeneration.
- Most resist the Spirit's work.
- God cannot violate their will.
- He waits on them to obey.

CALVINISM

- The Spirit convicts all elect.
- He uses gospel preaching.
- He gives the faith to believe.
- The elect cannot resist Him.
- All elect believe and obey.

**We disagree with
Arminianism and
Calvinism here ...
neither are
in the Bible!**

Irresistible Grace (2)

- God regenerates dead elect by resurrection power.
- They are totally passive without any cooperation.
- They are totally passive without any resistance.
- God does not use the gospel to regenerate elect.
- The elect may resist or fall away from conversion.
- The gospel is for assurance and practical benefits.
- The gospel is not for regeneration or eternal life.

Irresistible Grace (3)

- Arminians: Irresistible grace is heretical violence!
- Arminians: Man has free will; God never forces!
- Calvinists: Grace is irresistible in regeneration.
- Calvinists: Grace is also irresistible in conversion.
- Truth: Grace is irresistible in regeneration only.
- Truth: Grace is resistible or lost in conversion.

Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 1:13

Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.

John 5:25

15 So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also.

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Romans 1:15-17

**For the preaching of the cross is to them that
perish foolishness; but unto us which are
saved it is the power of God.**

I Corinthians 1:18

22 For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:

23 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

I Corinthians 1:22-24

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

Titus 3:5

19 Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him;

20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

James 5:19-20

As concerning the gospel, they are enemies
for your sakes: but as touching the election,
they are beloved for the fathers' sakes.

Romans 11:28

1 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.

2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

Hebrews 4:1-2

**But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast?
can I bring him back again? I shall go to him,
but he shall not return to me.**

II Samuel 12:23

Perseverance of the Saints (1)

ARMINIANISM

- Honest Arminians fall away.
- They get saved again, again.
- Most say you cannot lose it.
- One decision is good forever.
- They reject Lordship duties.

CALVINISM

- All the elect make heaven.
- The Spirit keeps their faith.
- He keeps them living holy.
- They will persevere to end.
- They cannot finally backslide.


**We disagree with
Arminianism and
Calvinism here ...
neither are
in the Bible!**

Perseverance of the Saints (2)


- God preserves His elect from losing eternal life.
- But God does not guarantee their perseverance.
- He does not force them to faith and obedience.
- Elect faith may be very weak and lost at times.
- It is God's faithfulness that counts, not the elect's.
- Abram, Lot, Samson, and Paul are all saved alike.
- Many fall away in gospel doctrine and/or practice.

Perseverance of the Saints (3)


- Arminians: You got yourself in ... keep yourself in!
- Arminians: Your choice is key; ignore persevering!
- Calvinists: God guarantees elect faith / holiness.
- Calvinists: Backsliders will repent before death.
- Truth: No two elect are the same in obedience.
- Truth: Their sins or false teachers wreck havoc.



**Arminianism
is antinomian
denial of man's
responsibility.**



**Calvinism is
fatalism that
God will keep
you living right.**



**The truth has
God saving and
man working
for assurance.**

31 If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments;

32 Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes.

33 Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail.

Psalm 89:31-33

Christ is become of no effect unto you,
whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye
are fallen from grace.

Galatians 5:4

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;
2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

I Corinthians 15:1-2

3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

II Corinthians 11:3-4

Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

I Timothy 4:16

18 Who concerning the truth have erred,
saying that the resurrection is past already;
and overthrow the faith of some.

19 Nevertheless the foundation of God
standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord
knoweth them that are his. And, Let every
one that nameth the name of Christ depart
from iniquity.

II Timothy 2:18-19

1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

John 15:1-2

30 For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

31 For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.

32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

I Corinthians 11:30-32

12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Hebrews 3:12-13


And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

II Timothy 4:18

**The Calvinist's favorite
verse for perseverance
has nothing to do with
eternal life!**

***“But he that shall
endure unto the end,
the same shall be
saved.”***

Matthew 24:13



**How dare we
sit in judgment
of great men
on both sides?**

7 I said, Days should speak, and multitude of years should teach wisdom.

8 But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.

9 Great men are not always wise: neither do the aged understand judgment.

Job 32:6-9

98 Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me.

99 I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.


100 I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts.

Psalm 119:98-100


16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

II Timothy 3:16-17



**Most Calvinists
miss the subject,
mode, purpose
of baptism!!!!**



**John Calvin was
accomplice to
the murder of
Michael Servetus!**

A Big Conundrum Solved!

- Reconcile God's sovereignty vs man's responsibility.
- Arminians emphasize man's responsibility to God.
- Calvinists emphasize God's sovereignty over man.
- We see God sovereign saving His elect w/o means.
- But elect have much duty for any assurance of it!

Are there Unconverted Elect?


- Yes. The Bible has examples i.e. Rom 11:28, etc.
- Yes. There are other examples i.e. I Cor 10:1-5.
- All elect are unconverted to some degree. Think!
- This is the only way David's baby got to heaven.
- Arminians & Calvinists fail with how much faith?

Are there De-Converted Elect?

- Yes. God has not guaranteed final perseverance.
- Yes. The Bible has examples i.e. II Tim 4:18, etc.
- Yes. The Bible has many more examples of them.
- Conversion depends on diligence i.e. I Tim 4:16.
- Yes. See the Bible details above for perseverance.

What of “The Sovereignty of God”?

- A.W. Pink was a Calvinist, and his errors are in it.
- We give it away for its great lesson of dominion.
- We also give Woodrow's away with Matt 24 issues.
- We also give out devotionals, chronologies, etc.



**There are
KEY TERMS
to know.**

Key Terms to Know (1)

- Monergism = regeneration by one – God alone.
- Synergism = regeneration by cooperation.
- 4-point Calvinists (LA) = Arminians in disguise.
- Lordship salvation = Calvinians using “Lord.”



**There are
KEY POINTS
to remember.**

Key Points to Remember (1)

- We start with total depravity until fully grasped.
- All Calvinists end up with justification of Arminians.
- Cornelius is example of regeneration w/o gospel.
- If Calvinist's IG is right, then why preach to any?
- If Calvinist's PS is right, then why press the saints?

Key Points to Remember (2)

- Faith is no more key than baptism, works, or love.
- Five Points of Calvinism \neq Five Phases of salvation.
- Arminians are humanists depending only on man.
- Calvinists are fatalists presuming on God to do it.
- The truth sees God's work and our duty from it.

Key Points to Remember (3)


- Abraham is #1 example of salvation in the N.T.
- Was Abraham saved before, at, or after Gen 15:6?
- Historical evidence of doctrine is of little value.
- Hyper-Calvinism is typically antinomian fatalism.
- But we are hyper-Calvinists by improving IG & PS.

Key Points to Remember (4)

- Regeneration and conversion are not the same.
- Dividing regeneration and conversion is crucial.
- No Calvinist can handle four Hebrews warnings.
- After all, God guaranteed all to finally persevere.
- They apply all such passages to “false professors.”

Key Points to Remember (5)

- God has secret and revealed things/will (Deut 29:29).
- Arminians minimize His secret will for revealed.
- Calvinists minimize His revealed will for secret.
- The truth glorifies and trusts God for His secret will and works with great diligence for revealed.



**You must work
out what God
has worked in!**




**Fully grasp this
wonderful text
of combination!**

12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Philippians 2:12-13



**This balance or
combination is
truth we hold!**



**Arminians reject
all working – a
decision suffices.**



**Calvinists reject
fear – since God
guarantees it all.**



**What must I do
to be saved?**

Repent of sins (Acts 2:38)

Believe on Jesus (Acts 16:31)

Get Baptized (Mark 16:16)

Add Works (II Pet 1:5-11)

Continue (Jn 8:31; Col 1:23)

**Those five responses by
you are evidence of**

**Election
Justification
Regeneration
Glorification (future)**

**Those five responses by
you are conditions for**

**Conversion
Assurance
Fellowship
Knowledge
Fruitfulness
Peace & Power
Etc.**

**Those five responses
cannot be conditions for**

**Election
Justification
Regeneration
Glorification (future)**



**How can I know I am
one of God's elect?**



Same as above!

2 We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers;

3 Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;

4 Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.

I Thessalonians 1:2-4

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

II Peter 1:5-7

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

II Peter 1:10-11

For Further Study

Calvinism, Arminianism (Word) ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/salvation/calvinism-arminianism/sermon.php>.

Unconditional Salvation ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/salvation/unconditional-salvation/sermon.php>.

Phases of Salvation ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/salvation/five-phases-of-salvation/sermon.php>.

Questions for Arminians ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/questions-for-arminians.pdf>.

Facets of Salvation ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/salvation/facets-of-salvation/sermon.php>.

Problem Texts ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/salvation/salvation-problem-texts/sermon.php>.

Why Preach? ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/why-preach-the-gospel.pdf>.

Why No Invitations? ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/why-no-invitation.pdf>.

Great Commission ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/great-commission.pdf>.

Salvation By Works ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/salvation/salvation-by-works/sermon.php>.

Once Saved, Always Saved ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/heresy/once-saved-always-saved/sermon.php>.

Malaysia Bible Conference ... see the author about this massive unpublished ten-section presentation about salvation.

www.LetGodBeTrue.com