**CALVINISM EXPOSED**

"The five points may be more easily remembered if they are associated with the word **T-U-L-I-P.**

T= Total Inability

U= Unconditional Election

L= Limited Atonement

I= Irresistible (efficacious) Grace

P= Perseverance of the Saints

These are the points of Calvinism. I have heard preachers say, "I am a one-point Calvinist."

I have heard others say, "I am a two- or three-point Calvinist." I want us to look at all five points of Calvinism as taught by John Calvin, then see what the Bible has to say on each point.

(John 5:40).
Notice, it is not a matter of whether or not you ***CAN*** come to Christ; it is a matter of whether or not you ***WILL*** come to Christ.

**💢1}** **Total Inability**- If it is true that no person has the ability to come to Christ, then why would Jesus say in John 5:40, "Ye will not come to me." *why didn't He simply say, "You cannot come to me."?*
The only thing that stands between the sinner and salvation is the sinner's will. God made every man a free moral agent. And God never burglaries the human will.

( *John 5:40),* "Ye will not come to me." why didn't He simply say, "You cannot come to me."?

 (Matt. 23:37) It was not a matter of whether they could; it was a matter of whether they would.

\*Some Calvinists use (John 6:44) in an effort to prove total inability. Here the Bible says, "No man can come to me except the Father which hath sent me draw him...."But the Bible makes it plain in (John 12:32) that Christ will draw all men unto himself. Here the Bible says, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw ***all*** men unto me."

All men are drawn to Christ, but not all men will trust Christ as Savior. *Every man will make his own decision to trust Christ or to reject him.*

(John 1:9) says, "That was the true Light, which lighted every man that cometh into the world."

(Romans 1:19,20) Indicates that every sinner has been called through the creation about him. Also, (Romans 2:11-16).

The teaching that men, women and children are totally unable to come to Christ and trust him as Savior is not a scriptural doctrine. The language itself is not scriptural.

🎯2} **Unconditional Election**- By unconditional election Calvin meant that some are elected to Heaven, while others are elected to Hell, and that this election is unconditional. It is wholly on God's part and without condition.

By unconditional election Calvin meant that God has already decided who will be saved and who will be lost, and the individual has absolutely nothing to do with it. He can only hope that God has elected him for Heaven and not for Hell.

..Not all men are created with similar destiny, but 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."

\*So Calvinism teaches that it is God's own choice that some people are to be damned forever. He never intended to save them.

He foreordained them to go to Hell. And when He offers salvation in the Bible, he does not offer it to those who were foreordained to be damned. It is offered only to those who were foreordained to be saved.

This teaching insists that we need not try to win men to Christ because men cannot be saved unless God has planned for them to be saved. And if God has planned for them to be eternally lost, they will not come to Christ.

The doctrine that God elected some men to Hell, that they were born to be damned by God's own choice, is a *radical heresy* not taught anywhere in the Bible. \*(Ephesians 1:4) Read the entire verse, don’t stop in the middle.

The verse says nothing about being chosen for Heaven or Hell. It says we are chosen that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.

The verse says nothing about being chosen for Heaven or Hell. It says we are chosen to go and bring forth fruit, which simply means that every Christian is chosen to be a soul winner.

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."

Nowhere does the Bible teach that God wills for some to go to **Heaven** and wills others to go to **Hell**. No.

The Bible teaches that God would have all men to be saved. (2 Peter 3:9) says that he is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

\*(1 Timothy 2:4) says, "Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth."

Those who teach that God would only have some to be saved, while he would have others to be lost are misrepresenting God and the Bible.

\*Does God really predestinate some people to be saved and predestinate others to go to Hell, so that they have no free choice? Absolutely not!

Nobody is predestined to be saved, except as he chooses of his own free will to come to Christ and trust him for salvation.

💻3} **Limited Atonement**- By limited atonement, Calvin meant that Christ died only for the elect, for those he planned and ordained to go to Heaven: He did not die for those he planned and ordained to go to Hell. Again, I say, such language is not in the Bible, and the doctrine wholly contradicts many, many plain scriptures.

For instance, the Bible says in (1 John 2:2), "He is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”

The teaching of Calvinism on Limited Atonement contradicts the express statement of scripture. (1 Timothy 2:5,6) says, "The man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all...."

(John 3:17; 4:42) says, " For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

\**No man will ever look at Jesus Christ and say, "You didn't want to be my Savior."* No! No! Jesus wants to be the Savior of all men. As a matter of fact, (1 Timothy 4:10) says, "For therefore we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, specially of those that believe."

(Isaiah 53:6) There are two "all’s" in this verse. The first "all" speaks of the universal fact of sin.

"All we like sheep have gone astray." And the second "all" speaks of universal atonement-"and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."

The "all" in the first part of (Isaiah 53:6) covers. If all went astray, then the iniquities of all were laid on Christ. (Hebrews 2:9; 1 Timothy 2:5,6; Romans 8:32).

\*Some argue that if Jesus died for the whole world, the whole world would be saved. No.

The death of Jesus Christ on the cross was sufficient for all, but it is efficient only to those who believe.

The death of Jesus Christ on the cross made it possible for every man everywhere to be saved.

Everybody is potentially saved, but everybody is not actually saved until he recognizes that he (me or you) is a sinner,

The atonement is not limited. it is as universal as sin. (Romans 5:20) says, "But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound."

**🔵4}** **Irresistible Grace**-The fourth point of Calvinism is irresistible grace. By irresistible grace, John Calvin meant that God simply forces people to be saved.

God elected some to be saved, and he let Jesus Christ die for that elect group. And now by irresistible grace, he forces those he elected, and those Jesus Christ died for to be saved.

The truth of the matter is, there is no such thing as irresistible grace. Nowhere in the Bible does the word "irresistible" appear before the word "grace".

That terminology is simply not in the Bible. It is the philosophy of John Calvin, not a Bible doctrine.

*The word "irresistible" doesn't even sound right in front of the word "grace."*

Grace means "God's unmerited favor." Somebody said G-R-A-C-E- God's riches at Christ's expense.

Grace is an attitude, not a power. If Calvin had talked about the irresistible drawing power of God, it would have made more sense.

But instead, he represents grace as the irresistible act of God compelling a man to be saved who does not want to be saved, so that a man has no choice in the matter at all, except as God forcibly puts a choice in his mind.

Calvinism teaches that man has no part in salvation and cannot possibly co-operate with God in the matter.

In no sense of the word and at no stage of the work does salvation depend upon the will or work of man or wait for the determination of his will.

*Does the Bible say anything about irresistible grace? Absolutely not!* The scriptures show that men do resist and reject God. (Proverbs 1:24-26; 29:1) says, "Because I have called, and ye refused;

God calls, and men refuse. Is that irresistible? *God stretches out his hand and no man regards it? Is that irresistible grace?*

No. The Bible makes it plain that some men do reject Christ, that they refuse his call. (John 5:40) says, "Ye will not come to me, that ye may have life."

\*In (Acts chapter 7), we find Stephen preaching. He says in verse 51, "Ye stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye." To these Jewish leaders, Stephen said, "Ye do always resist the Holy Ghost."

**✴✴✴✴✴**There is absolutely no such thing as a "can't-help-it-religion." God doesn't just force men to be saved with his so-called irresistible grace.

God offers salvation to all men. (Titus 1:11) says, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men." *But man must make his own choice.*

He must either receive or reject Christ. (John 1:12) says, "But as many as received him , to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.”

"I would, but ye would not" does not fit the teaching of irresistible grace. So, people do resist the Holy Ghost. They do refuse to come to Christ. They do harden their necks. They do refuse when God calls.

That means that those who are not saved could have been saved. Those who have rejected Christ could have accepted him. God offers salvation to those who will have it, but does not enforce it upon anyone who doesn't want it.

🔆➰**🏁5}** **Perseverance of the Saints**-

The Bible teaches, and I believe in, the eternal security of the born-again believer. The man who has trusted Jesus Christ has everlasting life and will never perish. But the eternal security of the believer does not depend on his perseverance.

I do not know a single Bible verse that says anything about the saints' persevering, but there are several Bible verses that mention the fact that the saints have been preserved.

Perseverance is one thing. Preservation is another. No. The saints do not persevere; they are preserved.

The Bible states in (Jude 1; Thessalonians 5:23)

**✴✴✴✴✴**EXAMPLE STORY

The other morning, I opened a jar of peach preserves. I don't know how long those peaches have been in that jar.

But the jar had been sealed some time ago, and the peaches were preserved. When I took out the preserves and ate them with a good hot biscuit, they were as good as they were the day they were placed in the jar.

But wait a minute! The peaches had nothing to do with it. They were not fresh and good because they had persevered. They were good and fresh because they had been preserved.

The Bible makes it plain that the believer is kept. He does not keep himself. (1 Peter 1:4,5) states:

"To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fades not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

Now that doesn't sound like perseverance of the sheep or the saints. Here the sheep are in the Fathers hand, and they are safe-not because they persevere, but because they are in the Fathers hand.

Charles Spurgeon once said, "I do not believe in the perseverance of the Savior." To be sure, the Bible teaches the eternal security of the believer.

But the believer's security has nothing to do with his persevering. We are secure because we are kept by God.

We are held in the Father's hand. And according to (Ephesians 4:30), we have been sealed by the Holy Spirit until the day of redemption.

*\*So I disagree with all five points of Calvinism as John Calvin taught it.*

There is a belief that if one does not teach universal salvation, he must either be a Calvinist or an Arminian.

"There are really only three systems which claim to set forth the way of salvation through Christ [And he names them]:

"(1) Universalism, that all will be saved.

(2) Named after [Jacobus Arminius](https://www.gotquestions.org/Jacobus-Arminius.html) (1560—1609), a Dutch theologian. Arminianism, which holds that Christ died equally and indiscriminately for every individual. Arminians believe that future salvation and eternal life is secured in Christ and protected from all external forces but is conditional on remaining in Christ and can be lost through apostasy. That saying grace is not necessarily permanent, but that those who are loved of God, ransomed by God, and born of the Holy Spirit may (let God wish and strive ever so much to the contrary) throw away all and perish eternally; and

(3) Calvinism. "He continues, "Only two are held by Christians." That is Calvin's position and Arminius' position."

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**ENDING THOUGHT**
**\*But a person doesn't have to take either position. I am neither Arminian nor Calvinist.**

**I believe in salvation by grace through faith in the finished work of Christ. I believe in the eternal security of the believer.**

**I believe that Jesus Christ died for all men, and I believe what the Bible says, "That whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."**

**\*But I disagree with all five points of Calvinism as John Calvin taught it.**
\*In conclusion, let me say that Calvin and those who followed him claimed to believe and follow the Bible. They claimed to find at least a germ of the Calvinist doctrine in the scriptures.

But a careful student will find that again and again they go beyond scripture, and that Calvinism is a philosophy developed by man and depending on fallible logic and frail, human reasoning, with the perversion of some scriptures, the misuse of others, and the total ignoring of many clear scriptures.

Calvin did teach many wonderful, true doctrines of the scripture.

It is not a Bible doctrine, but a system of human philosophy, especially appealing to the scholarly intellect, the self-sufficient and proud mind.

*\*Brilliant, philosophical, scholarly preachers are apt to be misled on this matter more than the humble-hearted, Bible-believing Christian.*
**☠☠☠Calvinism lie = They believe because they were chosen.**

**🔥🔥🔥 The truth = We were chosen because we believe!**