

A Biblical Examination of **Reformed Theology**

AKA: CALVINISM



Total Inability

Unconditional Election

Limited Atonement

Irresistible Grace

Perseverance of The Saints

A Biblical Examination of:

Reformed Theology

THE POINTS ARE
INTER-DEPENDENT

The Five Points of Calvinism

Total Depravity
Unconditional Election
Limited Atonement
Irresistible Grace
Perseverance of the Saints



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CALVINISM: DOMINO THEOLOGY

T.U.L.I.P.



When One Falls
They All Fall

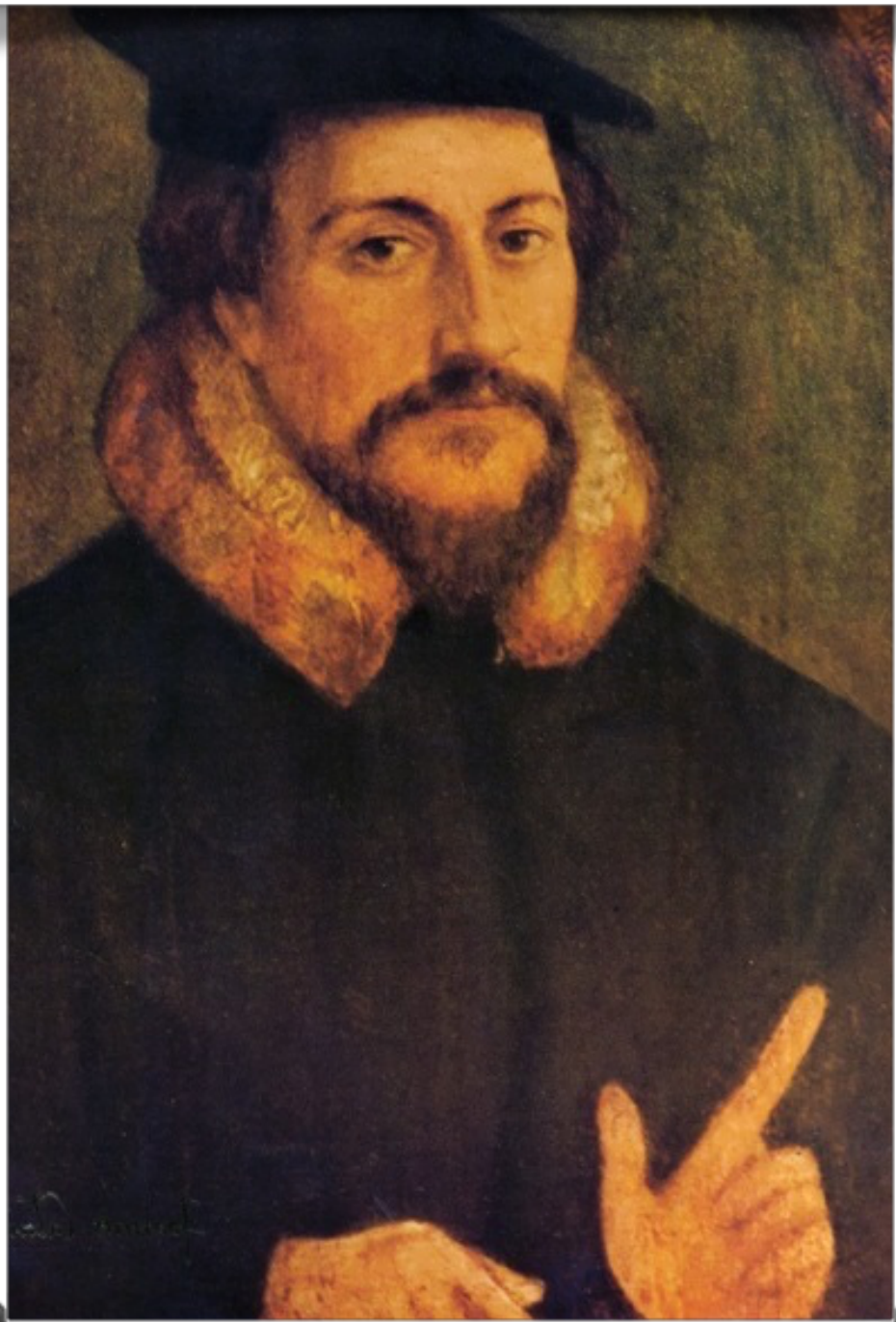
THE POINTS ARE
INTER-DEPENDENT

A Biblical Examination of:

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UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION

TO DEFINE



- **Unconditional Election**, proceeds from the first point of Reformed theology, “Total Depravity.”
- Remember, *they* say, mankind is so totally depraved men **cannot respond in faith** to God’s word—people cannot choose to obey—God has to choose for them.
- “**Unconditional Election**” states that God chooses some to be regenerated, giving them the ability to believe and thereby be justified.

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UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION

TO DEFINE



- **Unconditional Election** states that God, with no regard to the will of man, made an eternal choice of certain persons unto eternal life and some to eternal damnation and that number is so fixed that it cannot be changed.
- Rooted in a misunderstanding and false view of the sovereignty of God, Unconditional Election is logically connected with what the reformed position is concerning the doctrine of predestination.

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LIMITED ATONEMENT

TO DEFINE



- The third basic tenet of Calvinism is that Christ died only for the ones God had unconditionally chosen to save.
- Calvinists rationalize that God would not waste the sacrifice of Christ on those whom He had determined not to save.
- Their conclusion: Christ only died for the elect.

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LIMITED ATONEMENT

WHAT IS LIMITED ATONEMENT?



“Limited atonement is the teaching within Calvinism which states that Jesus only bore the sins of the elect (those chosen for salvation by God) and that He did not bear the sins of every individual who has ever lived. This teaching is also called "particular redemption" and "definite atonement.”” —

Matt Slick / <https://carm.org/what-is-limited-atonement>

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LIMITED ATONEMENT

WHAT IS LIMITED ATONEMENT?

“Limited atonement (or definite atonement or particular redemption) ... states that though the death of Jesus Christ is sufficient to atone for the sins of the whole world,[1] it was the intention of God the Father that the atonement of Christ's death would work itself out in the elect only, thereby leading them without fail to salvation. According to Limited Atonement, Christ died for the sins of the elect alone, and no atonement was provided for the reprobate. ...”

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LIMITED ATONEMENT

WHAT IS LIMITED ATONEMENT?

“... This is in contrast to a belief that God's prevenient grace (or "enabling grace") enables all to respond to the salvation offered by God in Jesus Christ Acts 2:21 so that it is each person's decision and response to God's grace that determines whether Christ's atonement will be effective to that individual.”

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LIMITED ATONEMENT

WHAT IS LIMITED ATONEMENT?

The Synod of Dort was convened in 1618 in order to decide a controversy between the followers of Jacobus Arminius (Arminians), and other Calvinists. ...Both sides of the controversy agreed that this efficacy was limited to the elect. The disagreement had to do with the grounds for this limitation. For Arminius, the ground was the free choice of people to believe, For the opponents of Arminius, ... this efficacy was limited based on God's predestination, without any foreknowledge of human choice.[4] Calvin clearly taught this second view, and it is also the view of Reformed theologians following the Synod of Dort."

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LIMITED ATONEMENT

DAVID N. STEELE AND CURTIS C. THOMAS

(The Five Points of Calvinism, Defined, Defended, Documented, p. 17)

“Christ’s redeeming work was intended to save the elect only and actually secured salvation for them. His death was a substitutionary sacrifice of the penalty of sin in the place of certain specified sinners. In addition to putting away the sins of His people, Christ’s redemption secured everything necessary for their salvation, including faith, which united them to Him. The gift of faith is infallibly applied by the Spirit to all for whom Christ died, thereby guaranteeing their salvation.”

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LIMITED ATONEMENT

PROPOSED PROOF TEXT



John 10:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.


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LIMITED ATONEMENT

PROPOSED PROOF TEXT

John 10:15 (NKJV)

- 
- ▶ Yes Jesus died for His sheep, (those who hear & follow Him vs. 27) — vs. 11, 15, 17, 18
 - ▶ There were sheep not of that fold - He also died for them — vs. 16
 - ▶ Before the sheep heard Him and followed Him, were they His sheep? No - but His atoning blood was available.

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LIMITED ATONEMENT

PROPOSED PROOF TEXT



Acts 20:28 (NKJV)

²⁸ Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

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LIMITED ATONEMENT

PROPOSED PROOF TEXT



Ephesians 5:25 (NKJV)

²⁵ Husbands, love
your wives, just as
Christ also loved the
church and gave
Himself for her,

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LIMITED ATONEMENT

PROPOSED PROOF TEXT



Acts 20:28 & Ephesians 5:25

- ▶ YES, Jesus died to purchase the church, but the Scriptural truth Calvinists overlook is any person can become a part of His church. (Rev. 22:17)
- ▶ Those who “gladly receive” the word are added by the Lord to His church. (Acts 2:41,47)

GOD CHOSE & CHOOSES

239

BEFORE TIME



**The Class –
In Christ
Ephesians 1**

The Book of Life

IN TIME

30 AD

500 AD

1000 AD

1500 AD

2000 AD

2010 AD



**Acts 2:38-47
Eph. 2:12,13
1 Pet. 2:9,10
2 Thes 2:13,14
Rom 16:3-13
1 Cor. 12:13,27
Rom 6:3-6
Gal 3:26,27**

**The Individual
Who Enters The
Class**

Names Written

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LIMITED ATONEMENT

Baptized Into

Rom. 6:3-6

Gal. 3:26,27

Acts 2:38,47

Outside Christ Lost Without Hope

1. **NO spiritual blessings –**
2. **NOT chosen –**
3. **NOT children of God –**
4. **NOT accepted –**
5. **NO redemption –**
6. **NO forgiveness –**
7. **NO heavenly Inheritance**

Inside Christ Saved / Hope

1. **ALL spiritual blessings**
2. **Chosen –**
3. **A child of God –**
4. **Accepted –**
5. **Redeemed –**
6. **Forgiven –**
7. **A Heavenly Inheritance**

Predestined Sphere

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WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH?



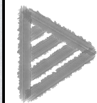
- ▶ The gospel is for all.
 - Matt. 28:18-20 teach all nations ...
 - Mark 16:15-16 preach the gospel to every creature, he who believes and is baptized ...
 - Acts 10:34,35 ... God shows no partiality. ³⁵ But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him.
 - Acts 17:27,28 ... desires all to seek Him ... Not far from each one of us

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LIMITED ATONEMENT

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH?



Jesus died for all men



Luke 19:10. "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."



John 12:32. "And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself."



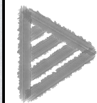
Romans 5:18. "through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, ..."

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WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH?



Jesus died for all men



2 Corinthians 5:14, 15. "... One died for all, then all died; and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, ..."



1 Timothy 2:5, 6. "... the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all..."



Hebrews 2:9. "... that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone."

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WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH?



John 1:29 (NKJV)

²⁹ The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”

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WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH?



1 John 2:2 (NKJV)

² And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

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WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH?



Titus 2:11 (NKJV)

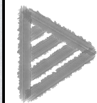
¹¹ For the grace of
God that brings
salvation has
appeared to all
men,

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WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH?



Some for whom Jesus died could perish ...



2 Peter 2:1–2 - "... there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.



Romans 14:15 - "...Do not destroy with your food the one for whom Christ died."

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CANNOT BE TRUE BECAUSE:



- ▶ God desires that ALL MEN come to a knowledge of the truth and be saved! — (1 Tim 2:4)
- ▶ God is NOT willing that ANY should perish but that ALL should come to repentance! — (2 Peter 3:9)

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LIMITED ATONEMENT

GOD OF CALVINISM

Partial

Unjust

Unfair

Unholy

Responsible -
All Evil / Lost Men

GOD OF THE BIBLE

Impartial

Just

Fair

Holy

Responsible -
Good / Salvation

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CALVINISM: DOMINO THEOLOGY

T.U.L.I.P. *When One Falls* **They All Fall**



THE POINTS ARE
INTER-DEPENDENT

Charts by Don McClain

Preached December 9, 2018

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John 3:13–17 (NKJV)

¹³ No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, *that is*, the Son of Man who is in heaven. ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.