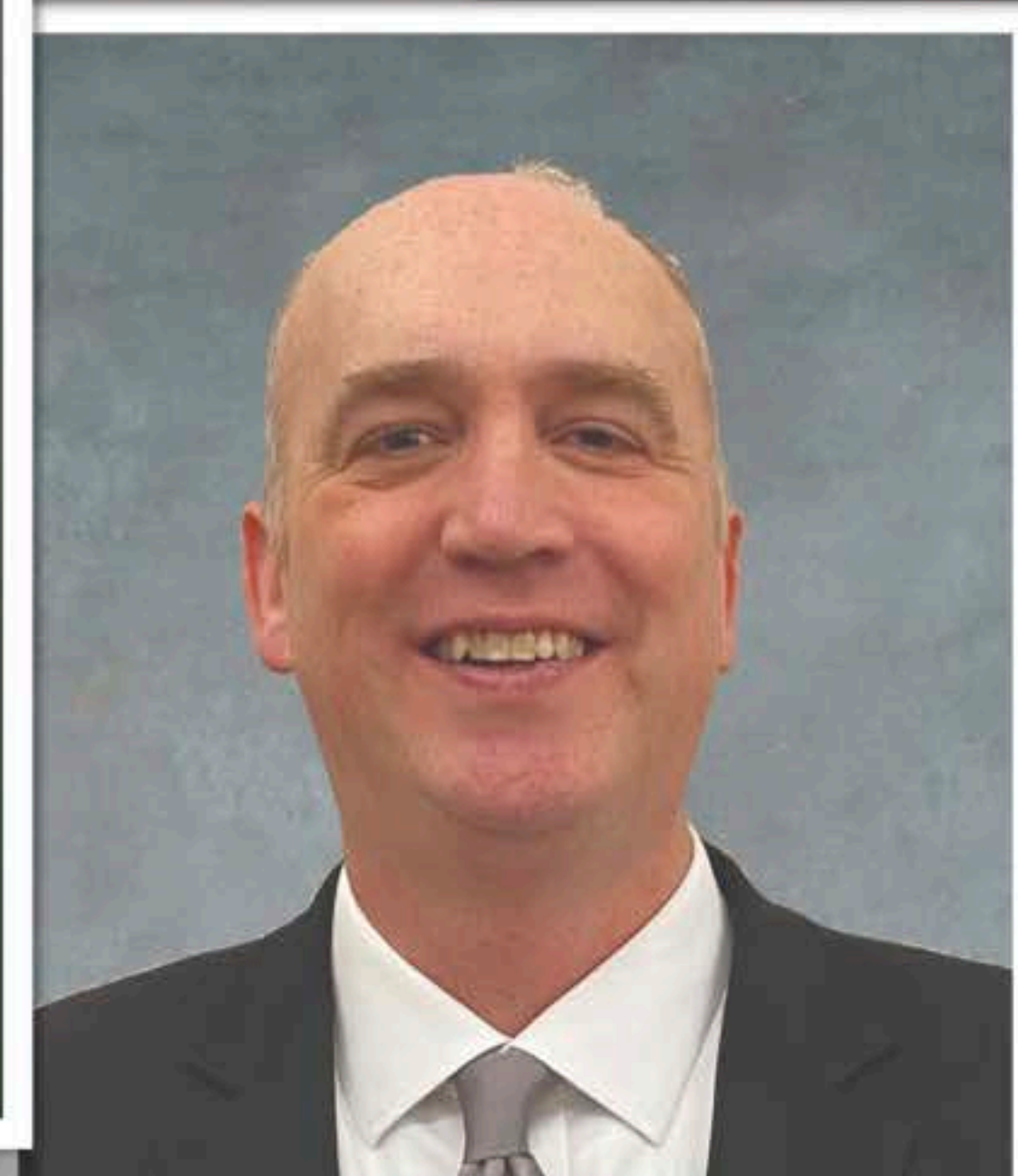


PROPOSITION

“The Scriptures teach that God chose, from the foundation of the world, a definite number of people to be saved, not on the basis of anything foreseen in them, but solely on the basis of His own purpose and grace.”



AFFIRM: JOEL ELLIS



DENY: BRUCE REEVES

Calvinism's God:

- Calvinism limits God's power by denying He can govern free creatures ...
- Calvinism limits the scope and availability of God's love ...
- Calvinism undermines God's justice ...
- Calvinism makes God the planner of evil ...
- Calvinism makes God less relational ...
- Calvinism presents a fragile sovereignty!

TWO WILLS OF GOD



All the Good That Is Ours in Christ | Mark Talbot



“Nothing that exists or occurs falls outside God’s ordaining will. Nothing, including no evil person or thing or event or deed. God’s foreordination is the ultimate reason why everything comes about, including the existence of all evil persons and things and the occurrence of any evil acts or events. And so it is not inappropriate to take God to be the creator, the sender, the permitter, and sometimes even the instigator of evil... Nothing — no evil thing or person or event or deed — falls outside God’s ordaining will. Nothing arises, exists, or endures independently of God’s will. So when even the worst of evils befall us, they do not ultimately come from anywhere other than God’s hand.”

HIGHER VIEW OF SOVEREIGNTY?

“God... brings about all things in accordance with his will. In other words, it isn't just that God manages to turn the evil aspects of our world to good for those who love him; it is rather that He Himself brings about these evil aspects for his glory and his people's good. This includes—as incredible and as unacceptable as it may currently seem—God's having even brought about the Nazis' brutality at Birkenau and Auschwitz as well as the terrible killings of Dennis Rader and even the sexual abuse of a young child...”

Mark Talbot, edited by John Piper and Justin Taylor, *Suffering and the Sovereignty of God*, (Wheaton, Ill: Crossway Books, 2006) 41-42

DesiringGod.org

“All the Good that Is Ours in Christ: Seeing God's Gracious Hand in the Hurt Others Do to Us”