

CALVINISM

(Extreme Predestination)

BASIC TENETS OF CALVINISM OR THE DOCTRINE OF EXTREME PREDESTINATION

1. Limited atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ
2. Total blindness of unsaved
3. Unconditional election of the saved (and therefore the lost)

THE WILLS OF GOD

The sovereign will of God:

This "will" of God is certain and cannot be altered nor stopped.

Gen 8:22. While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

Jer 31:35. Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name: 36. If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever. 37. Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD.

Dan 4:17. This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.

Rev 17:17. For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

John 3:16. 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.

The desired will of God:

This "will" reveals the preference of God and the path of blessing for man. Men may violate and ignore this "will" to their own hurt.

Matt 23:37. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

Acts 17:30. And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

(Obviously, all men are not obeying this command, or will, of God.)

Eph 6:5. Servants, be obedient to them that are [your] masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; 6. Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart;

(Obviously, not all Christians are serving their masters according to this will of God.)

1Ths 4:3. For this is the will of God, [even] your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:

(Obviously, not all Christians have abstained from fornication, thus violating God's desired will.)

1Tim 2:1. I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; 2. For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. 3. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 4. Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

2Pet 3:9. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

(Obviously, many men are ignoring and disobeying God's will in not repenting and they will perish contrary to God's desired will for them.)

SOUL'S SALVATION

The Method:

On the subject of an individual's soul salvation, we find the method by which one is saved is the "sovereign will" of God. It may not be altered nor stopped:

John 14:6. Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Acts 4:12. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Acts 10:43. To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

1Tim 2:5. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

The Application:

That all men should obey this method is the "desired will" of God. It is God's preference and man's blessing if man will obey. God has sovereignly ordained that man may resist His desired will, to man's eternal hurt.

1Tim 2:4. Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

Acts 17:30. And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

2Pet 3:9. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

John 3:16. 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. 17. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

THE COMPLETE SACRIFICE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST FOR ALL MANKIND

1John 2:2. And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

John 1:29. The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

John 3:16. 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. 17. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

1Tim 2:6. Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

Isa 53:6. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

1Tim 4:10. For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe.
(Note the special distinction of the last phrase of this verse.)

Heb 2:9. But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

Heb 10:26. For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, 27. But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. 28. He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: 29. Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

(Note that the unsaved man who has "trodden under foot the Son of God" had the "blood of the covenant" sanctifying him. It obviously was not able to bring his salvation to fruition because he sinned "willfully after" he received the "knowledge of the truth.")

2Pet 2:1. But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.
(Note the Lord "bought" the unsaved "false teachers" who denied Him and brought in "damnable heresies.")

2Cor 5:19. To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

Rom 5:18. Therefore as by the offense of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

ACTS 17:30. And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: 31. Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

UNSAVED MAN IS NOT TOTALLY BLIND NOR TOTALLY DEAF

God in His love sees to it that unsaved men are enlightened. When the unsaved reject the light God graciously bestows on them, their turning away causes blindness and hardening of their hearts.

Luke 16:27. Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: 28. For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. 29. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.

John 1:6. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. 8. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. 9. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

John 3:19. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.
(Note that men are condemned because light is available to them. They choose to love darkness because of their evil deeds. If light was not available, or if they were unable to comprehend light, there would be no condemnation.)

John 9:41. Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth.
(If unregenerate man was totally blind, he would not be held accountable and none would be lost!)

John 16:8. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9. Of sin, because they believe not on me; *(The Holy Spirit could not legitimately "reprove" a person who was never enlightened and to whom He had never given the ability to believe.)*

Acts 17:26. And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; 27. That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:

Acts 17:30. And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: 31. Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness (*see following three verses*) by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men in that he hath raised him from the dead.

PS 9:8. And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness.

PS 96:13. Before the Lord: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.

PS 98:8. Let the floods clap their hands: let the hills be joyful 9. together Before the LORD; for he cometh to judge the earth: with righteousness shall he judge the world, and the people with equity (evenness, to be straight).

(God could not honestly judge the world in "righteousness" and "equity" if all mankind do not have an opportunity to be saved.)

Rom 1:18. For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; 19. Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. 20. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, [even] his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: 21. Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

(Note the unsaved man's heart was darkened when and because he "became" vain AFTER KNOWING GOD.)

Rom 1:25. Who (unsaved man) changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

Rom 1:28. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; *(Unsaved man made a choice to not RETAIN God in his knowledge, showing they did perceive or retain God at one time. At this decision, on the part of unsaved man, God gave them over to a reprobate mind.)*

Rom 1:32. Who (unsaved man) knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

Rom 7:23. But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. *(Paul here described himself as being able to "see" in his unsaved "wretched" condition.)*

Rom 10:17. So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. 18. But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

Ps 19:1. The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork. 2. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. 3. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard. 4. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, 5. Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race. 6. His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

2Ths 2:10. And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:

Heb 10:26. For if we sin wilfully AFTER that we have RECEIVED the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,

In the light of the above, the gospel of personal salvation is obviously available to all of mankind.

ALL MEN GIVEN A CHOICE REGARDING PERSONAL SALVATION

It is God's sovereign will that man be given a choice regarding his personal salvation. It is therefore not able to be altered that man has this choice.

Prov 1:24. Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; 25. But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: 26. I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; 27. When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. 28. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: 29. For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD: 30. They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof. 31. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. 32. For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them. 33. But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

Isa 1:16. Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; 17. Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. 18. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. 19. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: 20. But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

Isa 45:22. Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and [there is] none else.

Isa 66:3. He that killeth an ox is as if he slew a man; he that sacrificeth a lamb, as if he cut off a dog's neck; he that offereth an oblation, as if he offered swine's blood; he that burneth incense, as if he blessed an idol. Yea, they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abominations. 4. I also will choose their delusions, and will bring their fears upon them; because when I called, none did answer; when I spake, they did not hear (*not because they could not hear, but because they would not hear...or God would be unjust and not judging in equity, Psalms 89:9*): but they did evil before mine eyes, and chose that in which I delighted not.

Matt 11:28. Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Matt 23:37. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

John 3:16. 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. 17. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 18. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

(Note the condemnation is because men would not believe, not that they could not believe.)

John 7:37. In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried (*Evidently the Lord wanted all to hear Him*), saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. 38. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

2Cor 3:15. But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the veil is upon their heart. 16. Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, (*THEN*) the veil shall be taken away.

1Pet 2:7. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,
(They could not be said to be disobedient if God did not choose them to hear and be saved.)

Rev 3:20. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

Rev 22:17. And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take of the water of life freely.

THE REASON(S) MEN ARE LOST

Men refuse God's gracious offer:

Matt 23:37. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

John 5:40. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

Men love darkness because their deeds are evil:

John 3:19. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

Men refuse to believe:

John 12:44. Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. 45. And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me. 46. I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. 47. And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. 48. He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

John 16:8. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9. Of sin, because they believe not on me; (*Note that not believing in Christ is sin. If Calvinism were true, then God causes mankind to sin because He is the One who fails to cause them to believe.*)

Rom 1:28. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

Rom 2:4. Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? (*If Calvinism were true, the above verse should read, "The sovereign decree of God causes thee to repent," and the next verse would not be there because they could not have an impenitent heart that treasured up wrath.*) 5. But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; (*How could God be wrathful against people He did not cause to believe through no fault of their own? How could such judgment be called "righteous,"?*)

Heb 3:12. Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. (*How could they "take heed" if they have no control over their hearts? How could they depart from something of which they never had an opportunity to take part?*)

Heb 3:18. And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? 19. So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

Heb 4:2. 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. *(Why bother preaching if they cannot hear? How ridiculous one would be to stand before an audience of deaf people and preach the gospel!)*

Men harden their own hearts:

Heb 3:8. Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

Heb 3:13. But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Heb 4:7. Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts

Rom 2:4. Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

5. But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;

Man refuses to "obey" God:

Heb 5:9. And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

(If everyone operates under the sovereign will of God, how could anyone, including the unsaved who have not been caused to believe, possibly disobey Him? Therefore it would follow that all would be saved for all obey. Some saved by belief and some by unbelief!)

1Pet 2:7. Unto you therefore which believe [he is] precious: but unto them which be disobedient *(it is impossible to be disobedient per the Calvinist doctrine!)*, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

Men exercise their God given "will" against God:

Heb 10:26. For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, 27. But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. 28. He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: 29. Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

2Pet 2:1. But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

GOD HAS TOLD US WHAT IT IS HE PREDESTINATES:

The words "predestinate" and "predestinated" are found in only four verses in the entire Bible. In each case what is predestinated is clearly stated in the context.

Rom 8:29. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

God, who knows all things, knew in advance who would accept and who would reject His Son as Saviour. God's sovereign will for those who accept is that they be conformed to the image of His Son." We read in 1Jn 3:2 "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."

Rom 8:30. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. In addition to the grand blessing of the saved being conformed to the image of His Son, God also has predestined other blessings delineated in verse 30 above. The "called" is a calling to one who is already saved with the promise of being conformed to the image of His Son. It is not the calling for salvation. It is the calling to fellowship with Christ (1Cor 1:4-9), Father/son relationship (John 10:1-4), peace (Col 3:5), liberty (Gal 5:13), and holiness (1Thess 4:1-12).

Ephesians 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, The above verse clearly tells us unto what we have been predestinated, "the adoption of children." This is the sovereign will of God for those who obey His desired will regarding salvation.

Ephesians 1:11 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: The above predestination is defined in the next verse...Ephesians 1:12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

The "afters" in the next verse should also be noted:

Ephesians 1:13 In whom ye also [trusted], after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

THE SEQUENCE OF SALVATION

1. The Lord Jesus Christ died for the sins of all men:

John 1:29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

I John 2:2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for [the sins of] the whole world.

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2. All men are therefore sanctified by His blood:

Hebrews 10:29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

II Peter 2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

3. God allows all mankind to accept or reject this sanctification:

a. The Son enlightens all men:

John 1:9 [That] was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

b. The Son draws all men:

John 12:32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all [men] unto me.

c. The Father teaches all men:

John 6:45 It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.

d. The Holy Spirit convicts all men:

John 16:8-9 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me;

e. God calls all men by the gospel:

II Thessalonians 2:14 Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

4. Those who willingly receive God's gracious efforts towards them are saved, born again, and become eternal children of God.

Romans 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

I Peter 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

John 1:12 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:

John 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any [man] pluck them out of my hand.

5. Those who are thus children of God, are given further "callings" from God:

a. Fellowship with Jesus Christ:

I Corinthians 1:9 God [is] faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

b. Peace

Colossians 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

c. Liberty:

Galatians 5:13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only [use] not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

d. Holiness

I Thessalonians 4:7 For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.

e. Father and son relationship:

John 10:3 To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.

6. God's foreknowledge and ability to "call things which are not as though they were (Romans 4:17)" is thus able to refer to His saved children as His "elect," "chosen," or "called."

I Peter 1:2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

Romans 8:28 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.

Revelation 17:14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him [are] called, and chosen, and faithful.

NONE CHOSEN TO BELIEVE

Nowhere in all the word of God do we find a single verse which tells us that God has chosen, elected, called, predestinated or ordained anyone to believe. On the contrary, we find numerous admonitions to men to believe, and condemnations if men refuse to believe. Both the admonitions and the condemnations would be absolutely cruel and even ridiculous on the part of God and His ministry if unsaved man had no ability to believe except as God caused him to do so.

Matthew 11:28 Come unto me, all [ye] that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

John 8:24 I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am [he], ye shall die in your sins.

John 3:18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

John 3:36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

In addition, we are told of God's grief at the unbelief of man. If the doctrine of extreme predestination were true, it would make such verses absolute hypocrisy on the part of God for He could have simply "chosen" and thus caused these men to believe.

Matthew 23:37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, [thou] that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under [her] wings, and ye would not!

Luke 19:41 And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it,

Romans 9:2 That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart.

Romans 11:32-36 For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all. O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable [are] his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, [are] all things: to whom [be] glory for ever. Amen.

Questions that have no answer under the Calvinist doctrine:

1. How could God legitimately be angry with the wicked when it is God who has not caused them to believe?

Psalms 7:11 God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry [with the wicked] every day.

2. How could Paul legitimately admonish ones to be careful to not have an evil heart of unbelief when according to Calvinism they have no control over their unbelief?

Hebrews 3:12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

3. How could anyone ever be considered a sinner by God if they were totally deaf and blind to their condition?

John 9:41 Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth.

4. How could the great white throne judgment be anything but a cruel mockery of poor souls who never had an opportunity to be saved?

Revelation 20:11-15 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is [the book] of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

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