



A just weight
and balance

are the
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

- **What am I describing?**
 - **If you want it;
you haven't got it;**
 - **If you want it,
you can't get it;**
 - **If you get it,
you can't lose it**
 - **If you lose it,
you never had it.”**
- (Zachary - Smith Debate, title page)

- **The five basic doctrines**
of Calvinism
are represented
by the acronym
T-U-L-I-P.

The central idea of Calvinism is the sovereignty of God

The one rock upon which Calvinism builds is that of the absolute and unlimited sovereignty of the eternal and self-existent Jehovah”

(Ben A. Warburton, *Calvinism*, p. 169).

- Calvin did not discover the sovereignty of God. He isolated it as idea.

- His isolation of it is the problem.

- He exalted the sovereignty of God to the exclusion of other truths of Scripture.

- All five points of Calvinism flow from this basic premise.

- The other doctrines of Calvinism are an expression of **this one central theme.**
- Thus if God is absolutely sovereign—the **Alpha** and **Omega**—then it follows that **salvation depends entirely on him** and not on man

(Edwin H. Palmer, The Five Points of Calvinism, p. 74).

- This basis is set forth in the **Westminster Confession of Faith.**

(July, 1643 to February, 1649)

- 1. **“God from all eternity did by the most wise and holy counsel of his own will, freely and unchangeably ordain**

whatsoever comes to pass”

(Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter III).

• **If that is true consider the following:**

- Every **theft**, **robbery**,
rape and **murder**,
with every other crime that has ever
come to pass, has not simply
come to pass as
'the omniscient saw it
would come to pass,
but as he unchangeably ordained
it should come to pass!

· And he not only
unchangeably ordained that
it should come to pass,
but unchangeably
ordained the instruments
through whom it
should come to pass,
and *unchangeably ordained*
them to that very end.

- In view of this,
what becomes of
the agency of man?
- Is man a free agent
or a mere machine?

- A mere machine is not an agent,
for it has no power to act,
**but is merely driven by the force
that acts upon it.**

- **Is this man's condition?**

- Has man:
 - No **will**?
 - No **volition**?
 - No power of **choice**?

- 2. **“By the decree of God, for the manifestation of his glory, some men and angels are predestined unto everlasting life, and others fore-ordained to everlasting death, ... and their number is so certain and definite that it cannot be either increased or diminished”**

- (Westminster Confession of Faith. (Written in July, 1643 to February, 1649)

- Now for a closer look at
- The five basic doctrines
of Calvinism
which are represented
by the acronym
T-U-L-I-P.

- **1. T = Total Hereditary Depravity.**

- **At birth**

- all men are
depraved wholly and totally.

- They are in this
sinful condition

- because they have**
inherited it
from their parents.

- **2. U = Unconditional Election.**

- God, before the foundation of the world, arbitrarily chose to save some people and destroy others and nothing can be done to change God's sovereign decree.

- **3. L = Limited Atonement.**

- Christ died

- only for

- the ones God

- had unconditionally

- chosen to save.

- **4. I = Irresistible Grace.**

- An unregenerate person

cannot voluntarily
believe in God

- But once God determines to save him,

that same individual
cannot overcome

or resist the power of God

no matter what he may desire.

- **5. P = Perseverance of the Saints.**

- Consequently,
one needs to
do nothing
to remain saved.

- Calvinism presents a false chain of reasoning.
- Instead of supporting the Truth of Scripture, it stands opposed to it.

- The doctrine of Total Hereditary Depravity.

- Also known as the doctrine of “original sin,” is taught by a large number of denominations.

- **“Total Hereditary Depravity,”**
implies
three things
which Calvinists believe
about the nature of
all humans at birth.
- **Listed in the next slide.**

- # 1 They are depraved.
- They are caught up in and guilty of sin.
- # 2 They are wholly or totally depraved.
 - Nothing about them is good.
- # 3 The sinful condition, depravity, in which they are born is hereditary
- It comes to them from their parents.

- Today we will consider this doctrine by looking at:
- # 1 The proof texts used to defend it.
- # 2 Its consequences if it were true.
- # 3 Some Scriptural objections to it.

- Total Hereditary Depravity Expressed
- The Westminster Confession of Faith.
(1649)

- “**They**

(Adam and Eve)

**being the root of all mankind,
the guilt of this sin was imputed,**

...whereby we are

**utterly indisposed, disabled,
and made opposite to all good,
and wholly inclined to all evil,...”**

(Chapter VI)

John Wesley (1703-1791).

*“We are condemned
before we have done
good or evil,
under the curse
before we know what it is.”*

(Sermons on Original Sin, p. 340)

- **Proof Texts Used to Support Total Hereditary Depravity**

- **Genesis 6:5**

And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

- **The argument:**
 - Every intent of man's heart was evil continually, **therefore,** all men were born totally depraved.

- Why is it then that
Noah was a
“just man,
perfect in his generations.”
(Genesis 6:9)
- Why does verse 12 state:
that
“all flesh had
corrupted their way
on the earth”
(v.12)
- Not that they were born corrupt.

- If Genesis 6:5 depicts Total Hereditary Depravity,
- Why was it not the same in the generations before that of Noah?
 - Why did not God destroy mankind sooner?
 - How is it, if all men were depraved, that in Genesis 4:26, “men began to call on the name of the Lord?”

- Psalm 51:5.

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

- The argument:

Being conceived in sin
and born in iniquity

David was a sinner at birth.

- David asks God to forgive his sin not his mother's sin.
- David's parents were simply like all other men and women sinner themselves who lived in a world of sin.
 - If we are born sinners how is it that Jesus "knew no sin" (2 Corinthians 5:21)

There Is None Who Does Good

Psalms 53:1

**The fool hath said in his heart, There is no
God. Corrupt are they, and have done
abominable iniquity;
There is none that doeth good.**

**53:2 God looked down from heaven upon the
children of men, To see if there were any that
did understand, That did seek after God.**

**53:3 Every one of them is gone back; they are
together become filthy; There is none that
doeth good, no, not one.**

- Psalm 53:1-3.

- The argument:

If no one does good,
we must be born
sinners.

- The context
states otherwise.

- Why are they corrupt?

- They

- “have done
abominable iniquity.”

- (Psalm 53:1)

- Is it speaking of babies?

A baby cannot “seek God.” (v. 2)

- These have “turned aside” to sin (v. 3).

They were not born in it.

- These have

- “become corrupt” (v. 3).

They were not born that way.

- Psalm 58:3.
- The argument:
 “**The wicked go astray
 (from God)
 from the womb.**”
- 2. Note the use of the phrase
 “go astray.”
They are not born wicked.
- 3. Babies are not under consideration
 in this passage.
 - a. “Speaking lies”
 indicates age.
 - b. They stop their ears (vv. 4-5).
They are old enough to understand.

- Those who see **Psalm 58:3** as teaching **total hereditary depravity** find what is absolutely not in it.

- The words **'total,'** **'hereditary,'** **'depravity'** are not in the Bible,

- **Not even one in any place,** much less all three together!

- **Romans 3:19.**
- **The argument:**
*All the world is guilty of sin
before God*
- **It is assumed that**
they are born in sin.
 - **Adam's sin**
or inherited depravity
are not even mentioned.
- The passage is simply stating
that both Jews and Gentiles
are guilty of sinning against God.

- Romans 3:12.
- **“They have all turned aside.”**
 - One cannot turn aside from that which he was not on in the first place.

- **Romans 5:12-21.**

- **The argument:**

The **guilt** of the sin of Adam,
and thus depravity,
has been passed unto all people.

- While this is a difficult passage,
there are

two important things

to remember

- Those two things are:

- # 1 “All sinned.”
(Romans 3:23)

People are subject to death because of their own sin.

- # 2 “Life through the One, Jesus Christ.”
(Romans 5:17)

- Verse 17 teaches that both life and death are conditional.

- If we say that

Adam's sin

brings automatic spiritual death,

- We must also say that

Christ's life

brings automatic spiritual life.

- **It was the sentence of**

“death,”

not sin,

which spread to all men.

- **Romans 8:6**

**For to be carnally minded
is death;**

- **but to be spiritually minded
is life and peace.**

**8:7 Because the carnal mind
is enmity against God:
for it is not subject
to the law of God,
neither indeed can be.**

- The “carnal mind”
(Romans 8:7),
refers to the unconverted.

- Verses
four and five
show that the ones
with carnal minds
“walk according to the flesh.”

- It does not state that
they are born in sin.

• 1 Corinthians 2:14

But the

natural man

receives not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

- **The argument:**
The natural
(sinful) man
cannot understand
and does not accept
the things of God
because he is
inherently sinful.

- The “natural man”
does not refer to a sinful,
depraved person
who has inherited his parents’ sins.
- It has reference to one
who is concerned only
about material things
and
who neglects
spiritual responsibilities.

- Such a one seeks earthly wisdom,
not spiritual.
(1 Corinthians 2:14-15)

- Paul is simply providing a contrast.

- 1Corinthians 2:14 (GW)

A person who isn't spiritual doesn't accept the teachings of God's Spirit.

- **He thinks they're nonsense.**
- **He can't understand them because a person must be spiritual to evaluate them.**

- **1 Corinthians 15:22.**

**For as in Adam all die,
even so in Christ
shall all be made alive.**

- **The argument:**

Adam brought physical death
upon all people

and every person who dies

bears the guilt and penalty

of Adam's sin

- The answer:
If all lost spiritual life
in Adam,
- Would not this passage
also require
that all people will have
spiritual life in Jesus
—that all will be saved?
- Or does the argument
defeat itself?

- Did Jesus misspeak when He used the word “whosoever”?

- Was it a slip of the tongue?

- Revelation 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 the water of life freely.

- All

Calvinist doctrines
lose their application
when studied
in light of
other scriptures.

- 2 Corinthians 7:1

**Let us cleanse ourselves
from all filthiness of the
flesh and spirit,**

- The argument:
Both flesh and spirit are defiled.

- The answer:
Christians are being
advised to cleanse themselves
of all defilements
of both flesh and spirit.

Scriptural Objections to Total Hereditary Depravity

- Exodus 32:31-33.

- Moses asked God

to let him receive the punishment

for the people's sins

so that they could be spared.

- God's answer:

Exodus 32:33

I will wipe out of my book

whoever sins against me.

Scriptural Objections to Total Hereditary Depravity

- Deuteronomy 1:34-39.

The Israelites could not
enter the promised land
because of sin

but their children could.

Scriptural Objections to Total Hereditary Depravity

- Ecclesiastes 7:29.

God made man upright.

- He is not depraved when born.
- He is without sin.

- **Isaiah 59:1-8.**
- **Your sins and iniquities,**
not someone else's,
separate you from God.
 - **Verses 3-8**
list some specific sins:
 - **murder,**
 - **lying,**
 - **acting violently,**
 - **running toward evil, etc.**
- **Could a newborn baby
have done these things?**

- **Ezekiel 18:5-20.**
- **A righteous son**
is not guilty of
his wicked father's sins
and
a righteous father
is not guilty of
the sins of his wicked son.
- The conclusion in **verse 20**
is too obvious to miss:
“The soul who sins shall die.”

- Mark 10:13-14
- If little children are born sinners
- We need to sin more!
- For Jesus said:
for of such is
the kingdom of God.

- **Romans 7:9-11.**
- Rather than being **born spiritually dead,** the apostle Paul was **born spiritually alive.**

- **Romans 5:12**

Death came to all
because **all sinned.**

- **Colossians 2:13**

You become
“**dead through**
your trespasses.”

- Conclusion

- 1. The basis of Calvinism originated, not in the mind of God, but in the mind of a mistaken theologian.
- 2. A person becomes a sinner when he violates God's law not when he is born.
 - 3. We do not inherit the sin of our parents, Adam or anyone else.

- **Think**
On These Things
(Philippians 4:8)

**The doors of the church
are open.**

**The Spirit and the Bride
Say
“Come”.**

Revelation 22:17

