



A just weight  
and balance

are the  
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

- **Calvanism explained.**
  - **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)

- Calvinism is a ridiculous doctrine.
- Easily disproven by a few simple scriptures.
- However, our study of Calvinism shows to what absurd lengths one will go to prove their point.

**The fourth basic doctrine**

of Calvinism is

**Irresistible Grace.**

It is also called:

**Invincible Grace.**

# Irresistible Grace

is the idea that the elect,  
those who Calvinists believe  
have been unconditionally elected  
to eternal life,

**cannot resist the grace of God**

and heaven's determination  
to save them.

The grace of God  
**overwhelms them**  
in such a way  
that even if  
they wanted to  
they could not repel it.

Calvin believed that  
only a direct operation  
of the Holy Spirit  
could make one who is  
“*dead in sin*”  
hear the gospel and believe.

This means that  
the gospel would not be sufficient  
to convict and convert  
the heart of the sinner.  
(**Romans 1:16**)

# Proof Texts Used to Support Irresistible Grace

## Acts 16:14 (ASV)

**And a certain woman named Lydia,  
a seller of purple  
of the city of Thyatira,  
one that worshipped God,  
heard us:**

**whose heart the Lord opened  
to give heed unto the things  
which were spoken by Paul.**

- **Romans 8:7** (ASV)
- **The mind of the flesh is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can it be:**

The argument:

The “**carnal mind,**”

possessed by those who are depraved,

**cannot understand,**

**believe or obey**

the spiritual law of God.

Calvinists will actually argue  
that they do not  
have a free will  
to choose anything.

Man becomes a puppet.

"God made me do it"

God forced me  
into becoming a Christian  
although I was having fun  
as a sinner

- Without free will,  
many of Bible statements  
**make no sense:**

- **"Why do you call me Lord  
and don't do what I say"**

**Luke 6:46**

- **Why?**

- **God** willed it that way!

# Deuteronomy 30:15-18 (GW)

**30:15** Today I offer you **life** and **prosperity** or **death** and **destruction**.

**30:16** This is what I'm commanding you today: **Love** the LORD your God, **follow** his directions, and **obey** his commands, laws, and rules. Then you will live, your population will increase, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you're about to enter and take possession of.

# Deuteronomy 30:15-18 (GW)

**30:17** Your hearts might **turn** away, and you might **not** listen. You might be tempted to bow down to other gods and worship them.

**30:18** **If you do**, I tell you today that you will certainly **be destroyed**. You will not live for a long time in the land that you're going to take possession of when you cross the Jordan River.

How can man be held  
**accountable to God**  
for his actions in judgment  
without freewill?

**"We must all appear  
before the judgment  
that each may be repaid  
for his deeds in the body,  
according to what he has done,  
whether good or bad."**

**2 Corinthians 5:10**

- It contradicts the parable of talents where man is held accountable for his actions.

## Matthew 25:19

**"After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them."**

(GW)

# Irresistible Grace actually destroys faith in God!

Many a faith has been destroyed  
by waiting for the  
"better felt than told feeling" call.

Many never get this feeling  
and conclude they are  
not on the "saved list"  
and give up on God.

Many are deceived  
**into a false sense of salvation**  
by thinking they have  
received the call of God  
through feelings.

Subsequent efforts to show them  
they are deceived  
bring replies like.

**"I know I'm saved...I got the feeling!"**

**Pentecostalism** provides a similar barrier,  
when men falsely claim  
**to speak in tongues etc.**

• **Galatians 3:24**

**Wherefore the  
law was our schoolmaster  
*to bring us* unto Christ,  
that we might be justified  
by faith.**

**3:25** **But after that faith is come, we  
are  
no longer  
under a schoolmaster.**

- **Chosen but Not Automatically Saved**

- **Deuteronomy 7:6-8**

**"For thou art an holy people  
unto the LORD thy God:  
the LORD thy God  
has chosen you  
to be a special people  
unto himself,  
above all people  
that are upon  
the face of the earth.**

Those verses say that  
God chose the nation of Israel  
**to be His special people**  
over all the other nations.

**But that did not mean that**  
He chose to exercise  
**His absolute control**  
over all of their  
actions and decisions.

**For example,**

His choosing them  
did not cause them

**to live more righteously.**

It did not cause them

**to choose Him back.**

# *He Could Have Forced Them to Live Right*

His choosing Israel  
to be His special people,  
one might expect that  
a holy, controlling deity  
would have forced His people  
to behave more righteously  
than other people.

But O.T. scripture clearly shows  
that not to be true.

# Note the following examples:

- Isaiah 1:4

**A sinful nation,**

- **a people laden with iniquity,**
    - **a seed of evildoers,**
  - **children that are corrupters:**
  - **they have forsaken the LORD,**
    - **they have provoked**
- the Holy One of Israel unto anger,**<sup>24</sup>

**Note the following examples:**

**Judges 2:11**

**"And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim."**

**Judges 3:12**

**"And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD:**

While God is sovereign and holy and while He could have forced His people to live any way that He wanted, many Bible passages show that **He simply did not do that.**

**He often punished them** because of their disobedience.

**But He never** forced them to be obedient.

*He Could Have Forced Them to Choose Him Back*

His choosing them  
did not mean that  
**He would make them**  
choose Him back.

**A sovereign deity**  
could have done that, too.  
But He obviously did **not**.

## Hosea 10:12

**"Sow to yourselves in righteousness,  
reap in mercy;  
break up your fallow ground:  
for it is time to  
seek the LORD,  
till he come  
and rain righteousness upon you."**

**That tells us  
that they had  
been allowed  
to turn away.**

## Ezekiel 2:3

**"And he said unto me,  
Son of man,  
I send thee to the  
children of Israel,**

**to a rebellious nation**

**that hath rebelled against me:  
they and their fathers have  
transgressed against me,  
even unto this very day."**

## Jeremiah 5:23

"But this people has a revolting and a rebellious heart; they are revolted and gone."

Like Hosea,  
both Ezekiel and Jeremiah  
also wrote about  
Israel's rebellious heart  
and sinful ways.

## 1 Samuel 8:7

The LORD told Samuel,  
"Listen to everything the people  
are saying to you.

They haven't rejected you;  
they've rejected me.

8:8 They're doing just what  
they've done since I took them  
out of Egypt-leaving me and  
serving other gods.

Calvinists do not think  
that a person is free to choose  
about their salvation relationship  
with the Lord

because  
that would go against God's sovereignty.

But the nation of Israel,  
God's own chosen people,  
was not prevented by God's sovereignty  
from constantly failing to seek Him,  
from rebelling against Him,  
or from rejecting Him.

# God Could Have Forced Them to Be Saved

His choosing them did not mean that they would automatically be guaranteed an eternity with Him in heaven.

## Romans 10:9

If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead, you shall be saved.

10:10 For with the heart man believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

According to the Apostle Paul  
the Lord does not view

**non-Jewish people**

**any differently than Jewish people**

when it comes to matters of salvation.

So the children of Israel,

God's own chosen people,

would have only been saved

by seeking the Lord with all their heart

**just like everyone else.**

## Jeremiah 29:13

And you shall seek me, and  
find me, when you shall  
search for me  
with all your heart.

The point being that

everyone must

call upon the Lord for salvation.

Jesus further confirmed  
in His Sermon on the Mount

that the Jewish people  
were not automatically saved

Matthew 5:27-30

When speaking to a Jewish crowd,

He told them that

*plucking out an eye*

or cutting off a hand  
was better than dying lost. .

## Mark 9:44

He warned them about the  
place where the  
*worm does not die.*

## Matthew 22:13

He warned them about a place  
of outer darkness where there  
*will be gnashing of teeth.*

## If not salvation

why were the chosen people chosen?

The answer is that they were chosen  
for a variety of blessings in this life.

### Joshua 2:9

**"And she {Rahab}  
said unto the men,  
I know that the LORD  
has given you the land,  
and that your terror  
is fallen upon us,  
and that all the inhabitants of the land  
faint because of you."**

God blessed them by  
sometimes making their enemies  
**afraid of them.**

**Psalms 1:3**

**"And he shall be like a tree planted by the  
rivers of water, that brings forth his fruit  
in his season; his leaf also shall not  
wither; and whatsoever he does  
**shall prosper.**"**

Even though they did not often meet the  
qualifications for obtaining it,  
**He blessed them by making prosperity**  
**potentially available to them.**

- **Joshua 24:13**

I have given you a **land** for which you did not labor, and **cities** which you built not, and you dwell in them; of the **vineyards** and **olive** yards which you planted not ...

## Genesis 49:10

**"The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be."**

The greatest blessing  
was bringing  
a Savior into the world  
through them.

Lastly He blessed them by allowing them to be the first to hear the good news of the gospel.

Matthew 10:5-7

**"These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:**

**But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.**

**And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand."**

**The Jewish people truly were God's chosen people.**

But the Bible does not support the idea that they would have been saved

**any differently than anyone else.**

While they might have been chosen for earthly blessings, they still would have been required to make the same choices about their own salvation as everyone else.

One should note, however, that the Lord's choosing to let His chosen people make many of their own choices, especially about their own salvation, did not demonstrate any weakness on His part because He is omnipotent.<sup>44</sup>

If He had wanted, He could have  
**made them do whatever**

He wanted them to do.

But the simple fact is that  
**He chose to not control  
everything about them.**

That same decision to let people  
be free to choose or reject Him  
**is still true today.**

His desire is for people to come to Him because:

They love Him,

And want to be in a salvation relationship with Him,

Not because they have been programmed or forced to do so.

He was longsuffering with His chosen people.

By giving them choices  
**He even put Himself at risk**  
of being rejected by them.

But He did so because  
**He loved them with**  
**an everlasting love**  
(**Deuteronomy 7:8**).

It was because of that love  
**that He still does not**  
**force people either**  
to be saved or  
to NOT be saved.

**Free Will to Sin**

**but**

**Not to be Saved**

But the Bible is clear  
when it says that the Lord  
**gives people the free will to sin.**

**2 Peter 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."** 48

The fact that God  
**is longsuffering**  
and wants everyone to  
come to repentance  
suggests that He wants them  
to repent or change their ways  
about something.

That something is sin  
**because He hates sin.**

**Psalms 119:11**

**"Thy word have  
I hid in mine heart,  
that I might not sin against thee."**

**Romans 3:23 says,**  
**"For all have sinned,**  
**and come short of the glory of God."**

If Calvinists are correct about God's sovereignty and about an individual's not being free to choose salvation for themselves,

**then God would be**  
**giving people the free will**  
**to do the sin that He hates**

while not giving them the free will to enter into the salvation relationship with Him that He desires.

That conclusion is **illogical** and **ridiculous**.

The sensible conclusion  
is that

He gives people free will.

**Because God is sovereign**

He can choose to  
**NOT** control everything.

How God exercises His sovereignty concerning a person's choice about salvation might also be similar to the **kenosis**, {G\_2758} which is based on **Philippians 2:6-7**

**"Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, {G\_2758} and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men."**

- The Greek word that was translated "of no reputation" in those verses is kenoo.
  - From it comes the word "kenosis {G\_2758}."

When the Apostle Paul wrote that Jesus emptied Himself, he was talking about those attributes of deity that He had voluntarily given up when He was incarnated.

As God and man,  
He voluntarily gave up use  
of His divine attributes.

That meant that  
He did not allow Himself  
to always know everything  
(omniscience),

To always be  
everywhere at the same time  
(omnipresence),

Or to always be able  
to do anything  
(omnipotence).

While in the body of a man,  
He was still God.

But He voluntarily  
chose to limit Himself.

In the *kenosis*,  
He voluntarily gave up  
the free use of  
His divine attributes.

But He still possessed them.

He was still  
omniscient,  
omnipotent,  
and omnipresent.

But as a human being,  
He just did not  
let Himself use  
those attributes freely.

In like manner,  
in the context of  
God's sovereignty,  
the Lord could voluntarily  
give up His sovereignty  
so that people would  
be able to make  
their own choices  
about entering into  
a salvation relationship with Him.

The Lord can be absolutely sovereign  
**and still let people make a choice.**

**He was sovereign when**

He let His chosen people  
live in sin and rebellion.

**He was sovereign when**

He let them reject Him.

**He was sovereign when**

He gave people the free will to sin  
even though He hates sin.

**Protecting God's sovereignty**  
**may be the feeble**  
**attempt of Calvinist to protect God**  
from the apparent failure  
caused by repeated rejection.

It could also be to keep Him from  
**appearing weak and vulnerable.**

However, those issues  
**do not concern**  
**or affect the Lord.**

Jesus said it all in  
**Matthew 23:37**

**"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you that kill the prophets, and stones them which are sent unto you, how often would I have gathered your children together, even as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, and you would not!"**

**Those words do not reflect a God  
that is worried about  
being rejected or appearing weak  
that He has predetermined  
some people to be saved  
and some people to be lost.**

- ***Think on these things***  
**Philippians 4:8**

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

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

**Revelation 22:17**

