

TULIP

The 5 Points of Calvinism

EPSON WEEK 6:

CALVINISM vs. ARMINIANISM



OUR GOAL

To explore the 5 Points of Calvinism, examine their biblical support and opposition, and align our beliefs with the truth of Scripture.

WHAT WE'LL DISCUSS

- What is Calvinism?
- Where did this theological stance come from?
- Does it align with the Bible?

TULIP

The 5 Points of Calvinism

T

TOTAL DEPRAVITY

Humanity is completely fallen in sin and unable to choose God on our own.



ROMANS 3:10-12, 23

U

UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION

God chose us for salvation before the foundation of the world, based solely on His sovereign will.



EPHESIANS 1:4-5;
ROMANS 9:15-16

L

LIMITED ATONEMENT

Christ died specifically for the elect, not for all people.



JOHN 10:15;
1 JOHN 2:2

I

IRRESISTIBLE GRACE

When God draws someone to salvation, that grace cannot be resisted.



JOHN 6:44;
ACTS 13:48

P

PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS

Those truly saved by God will endure in faith and be kept by His power.



JOHN 10:28-29;
PHILIPPIANS 1:6



SCRIPTURE IS OUR ULTIMATE AUTHORITY. All doctrines must be tested and confirmed by the Word of God.

1. Total Depravity

Humanity is completely fallen in sin.
We are unable to choose God on our own.

1 Enslaved to Sin

As a consequence of the Fall, every person is enslaved to their fallen nature.

2 Separated from God

The Fall broke our habitation with God, creating a vast separation. Humanity is now *dead in sin*.

3 In Need of Salvation

Our fallen nature makes us unable to choose God without divine intervention.

*“None is righteous, no, not one;
no one understands; no one seeks for God.”*

Romans 3:10-11 (ESV)



UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION

The "U" in TULIP

God chose who would be saved before the foundation of the world, not based on anything they would do—but solely based on **His will**.

- Not based on:
- Human Will
- Human Effort
- Foreseen Faith

Based on God's Sovereign Choice

1. Ephesians 1:4–5

"He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world... In love He predestined us... according to the good pleasure of His will."



2. Romans 9:15–16

"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy... So then it does not depend on the one who wills or the one who runs, but on God who has mercy."



3. John 6:44

"No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day."



— God's Choice, Not Our Effort. —

God's Sovereign Will in Salvation

Limited Atonement (L in TULIP)

Christ died specifically for the elect, not universally for every individual.

Does this doctrine hold up against the Word of God?

Key Scriptures that Refute Limited Atonement:

1 John 2:2

He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world."

1 Timothy 2:4

"Who wants all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

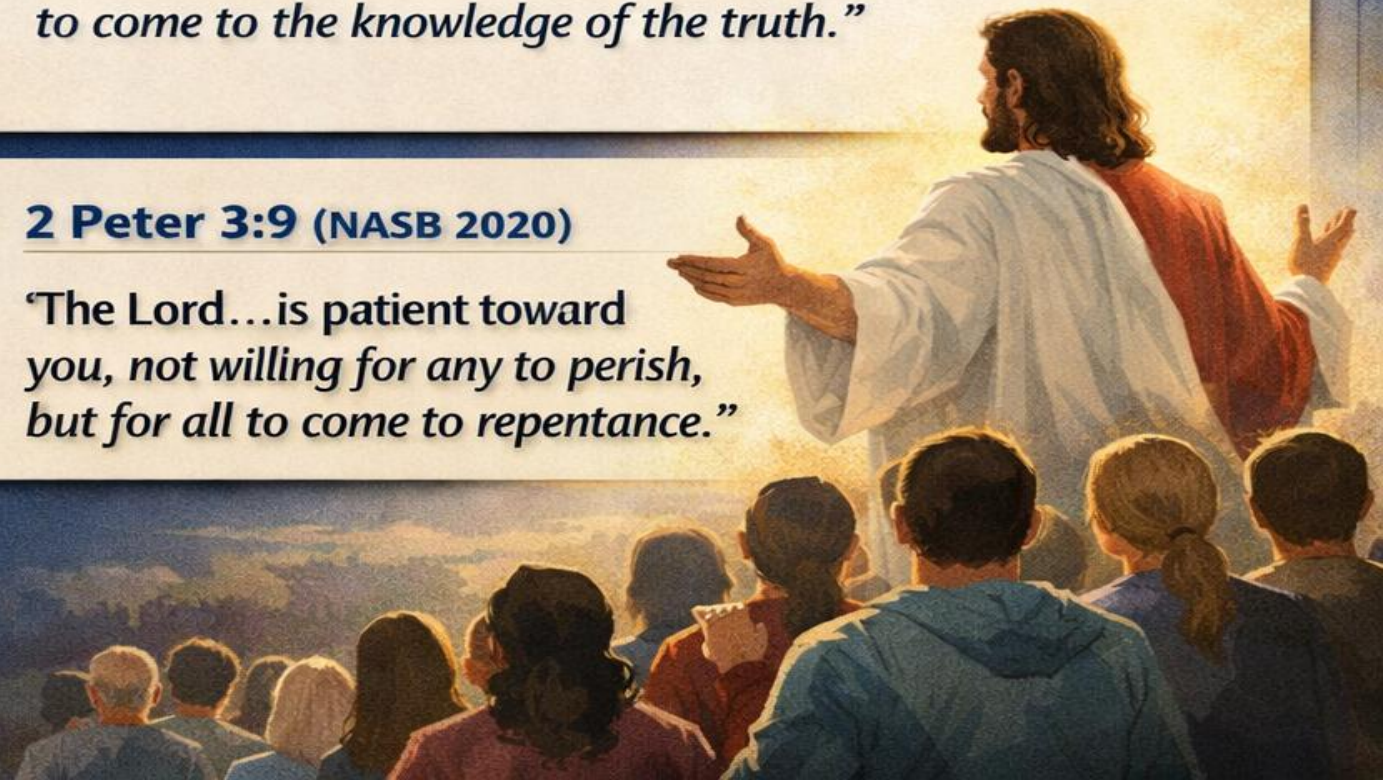
John 3:16 (NASB 2020)

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life."

2 Peter 3:9 (NASB 2020)

"The Lord...is patient toward you, not willing for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance."

- **A Universal Call**
- **A Genuine Invitation**
- **A Real Opportunity**



Irresistible Grace (I in TULIP)

Irresistible Grace teaches that when God draws someone to salvation, that grace is effective and cannot ultimately be resisted. Those whom God has chosen will come to faith.

Key Idea: *God's grace is effective, not merely an invitation.*

SCRIPTURES SUPPORTING IRRESISTIBLE GRACE:

John 6:37 (NASB 2020)

"All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I certainly will not cast out."

Key Emphasis:

- Those given will come—God's call is effective

John 6:44 (NASB 2020)

"No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day."

Key Emphasis:

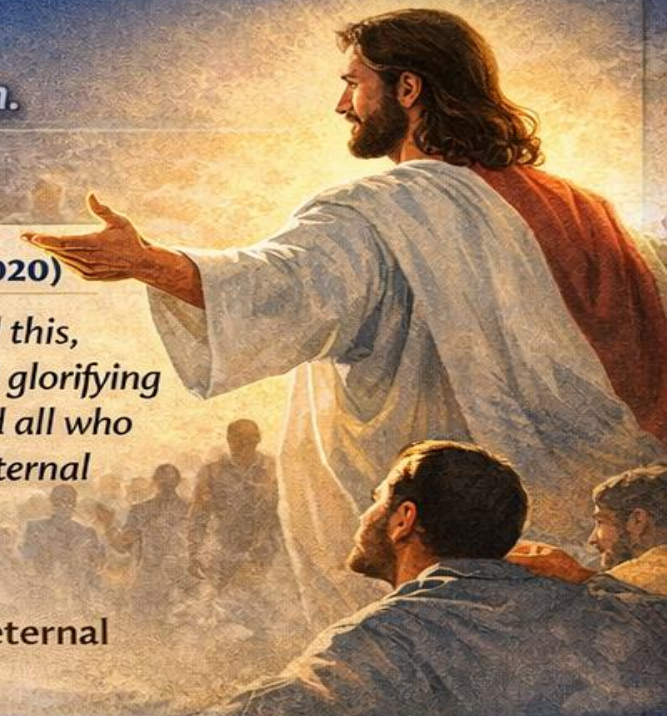
- God's drawing is essential and effective

Acts 13:48 (NASB 2020)

"When the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and all who had been appointed to eternal life believed."

Key Emphasis:

- Those appointed to eternal life will believe



SCRIPTURES OFTEN USED TO CHALLENGE THIS DOCTRINE:

Acts 7:51 (NASB 2020)

"You men who are stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears are always resisting the Holy Spirit..."

Key Emphasis:

- Holy Spirit can be resisted

Matthew 23:37 (NASB 2020)

"Jerusalem, Jerusalem... how often I wanted to gather your children together... and you were unwilling."

Key Emphasis:

- Human unwillingness resisted

2 Corinthians 6:1 (NASB 1979)

*"And working together with Him, we also urge you **not to receive the grace of God in vain.**"*

Key Emphasis:

- Grace can be received

- Salvation is initiated by God
- Those He draws will respond
- God's call is effective and cannot ultimately be resisted

Scriptures Often Used to Challenge This Doctrine

Perseverance of the Saints (P in TULIP)

The doctrine that true believers, sustained by God's power, will endure to the end and will not lose their salvation.

Assurance of Perseverance

Key Idea: God preserves and sustains His people to the end.

◆ **John 10:28–29**

"No one can snatch them out of My hand."

◆ **Phillippians 1:6**

"He who began a good work will complete it."

◆ **1 Peter 1:5**

"Kept by the power of God through faith."



Warning Against Falling Away

Key Question: Can someone truly fall away from the faith?

◆ **1 John 2:19**

"They went out from us, but were not really of us."

◆ **Matthew 13:18–23**

"The Parable of the Soils."

◆ **Hebrews 6:4–6**

"It is impossible to renew them again."

Those who fall away show they were never truly saved.

— The 5 Points of Calvinism (TULIP) —



**Total
Depravity**

- Man is completely fallen in sin.
Genesis 6:5

**Unconditional
Election**

- God chooses the elect by His will.
Ephesians 1:4

**Limited
Atonement**



- Christ died only for the elect
John 10:15

**Irresistible
Grace**



- God's call cannot be resisted.
John 6:44

**Perseverance
of the Saints**



- The saved will endure to the end.
John 10:28

— Can God Keep You? Will You Remain in Him? —