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2017

# AMAZING GRACE

*The Reformation to the Glory of God*

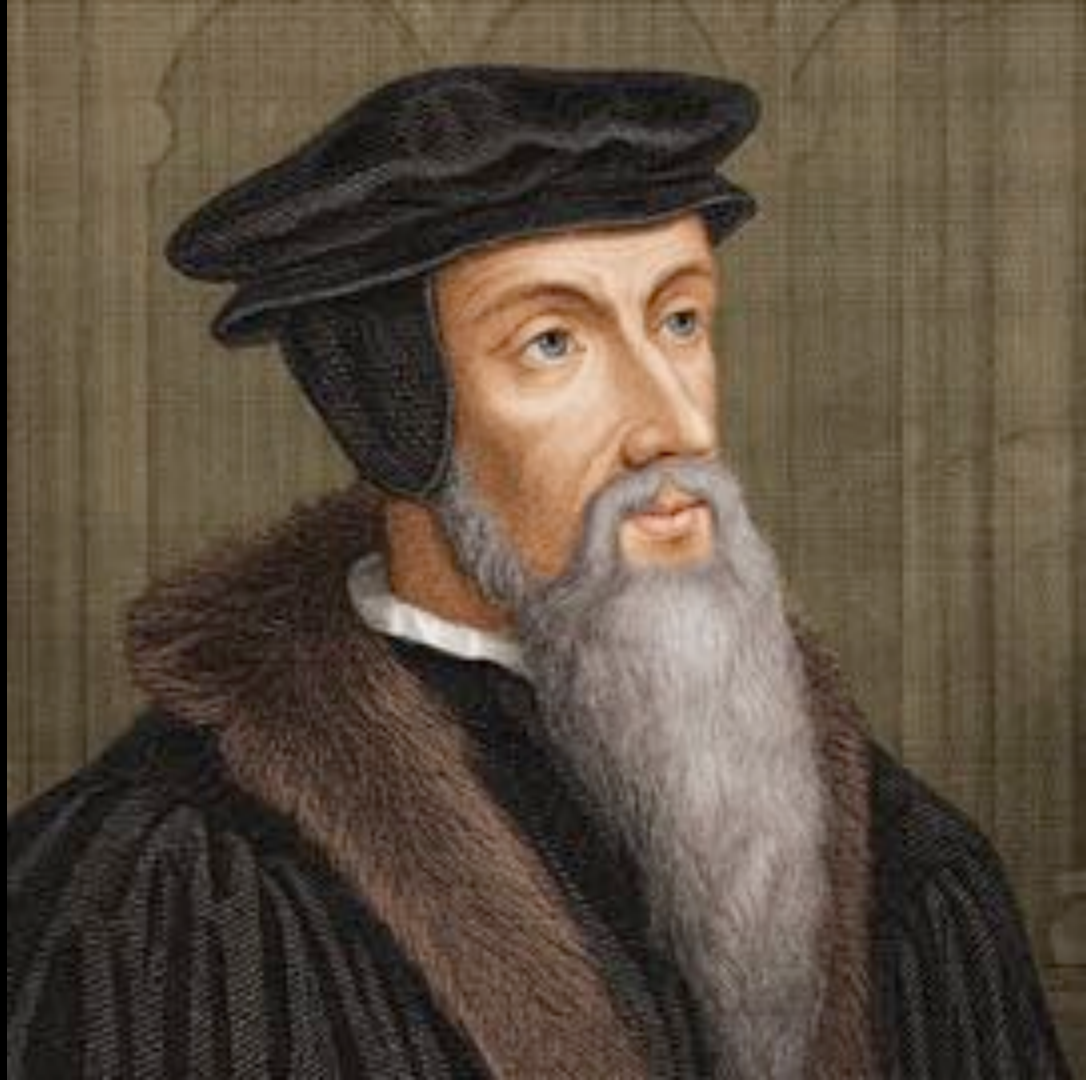


SEVEN GOSPEL

FLAMES REKINDLED

# AMAZING GRACE

*The Reformation to the Glory of God*



T.U.L.I.P



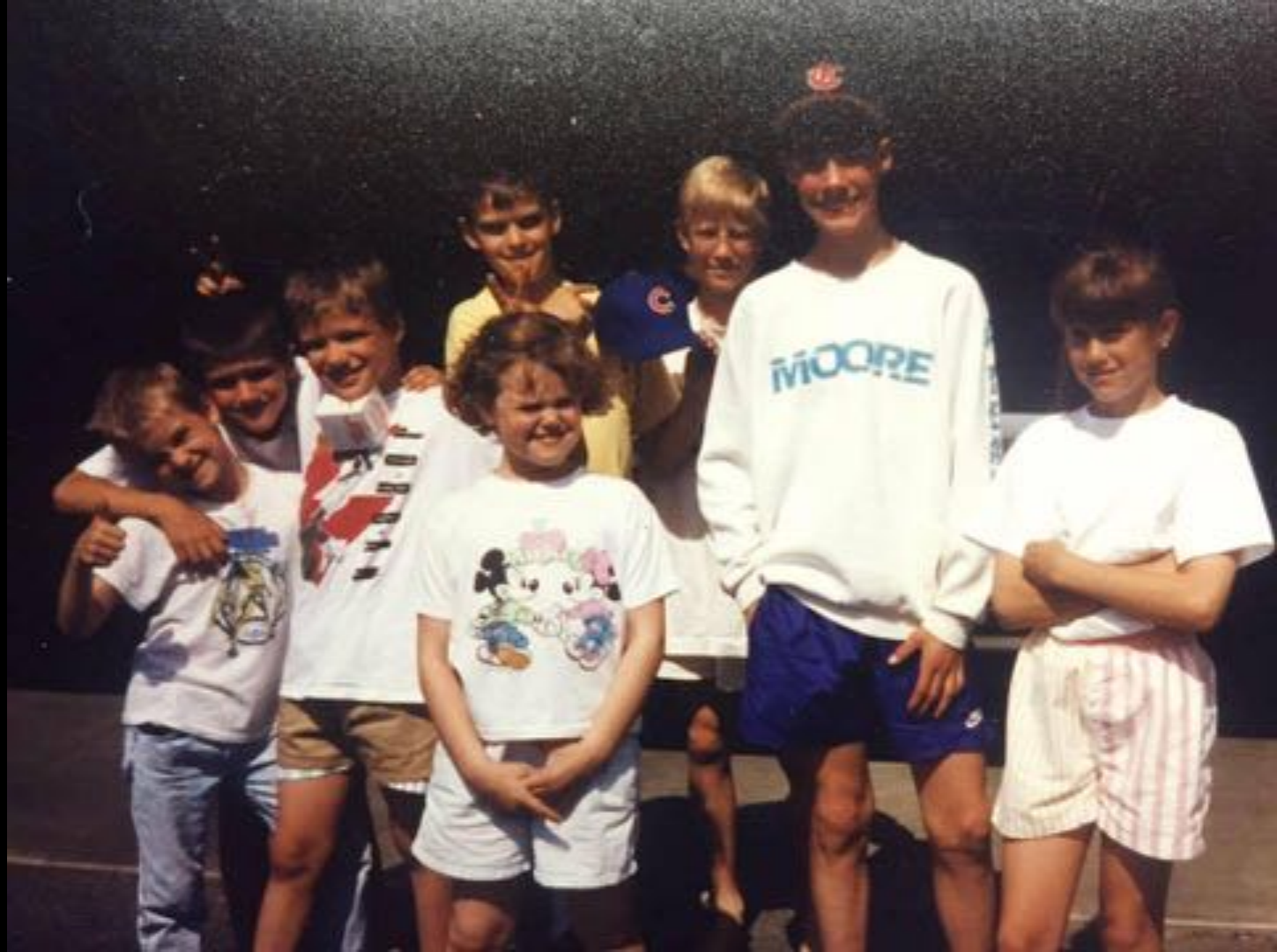
TOTAL DEPRAVITY  
UNCONDITIONAL  
ELECTION  
LIMITED ATONEMENT  
IRRESISTIBLE GRACE  
PERSEVERANCE OF  
THE SAINTS



**Today's Sermon:**

*Irresistible Grace: Freely Choosing the Beauty of  
Christ*





However, the idea of irresistibility conjures up the idea that one cannot possibly offer any resistance to the grace of God. However, the history of the human race is the history of relentless resistance to the sweetness of the grace of God. Irresistible grace does not mean that God's grace is incapable of being resisted. Indeed, we are capable of resisting God's grace, and we do resist it. The idea is that God's grace is so powerful that it has the capacity to overcome our natural resistance to it. It is not that the Holy Spirit drags people kicking and screaming to Christ against their wills.



The Holy Spirit changes the inclination and disposition of our wills, so that whereas we were previously unwilling to embrace Christ, now we are willing, and more than willing.



~ R.C. Sproul, *TULIP and Reformed Theology: Limited Atonement*, Apr 08, 2017 from  
<http://www.ligonier.org/blog/tulip-and-reformed-theology-irresistible-grace/>

## Law of Free Will:

Free moral agents always act according to the strongest inclination they have at the moment of choice.




Jonathan Edwards, *Freedom of the Will*

Every choice that we make is free.  
Every choice we make is determined.



Robert Charles Sproul, *Chosen by God.*

# I. What is Regeneration?



We may define regeneration as a drastic act on fallen human nature by the Holy Spirit, leading to a change in the person's whole outlook. He can now be described as a new man who seeks, finds and follows God in Christ.

~ M. R. Gordon, "Regeneration," ed. D. R. W. Wood et al., *New Bible Dictionary* (Leicester, England; Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1996), 1005.



## Ephesians 2:1-10

2 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, <sup>2</sup> in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup> All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh <sup>m</sup> and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

## Ephesians 2:1-10

<sup>4</sup> But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup> made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved. <sup>6</sup> And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

## Ephesians 2:1-10

<sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God —  
<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

**I. What is Regeneration?**

**II. When/How does it take place?**

*“Ordo Salutis”*  
**Order of Salvation**



*“Ordo Salutis”*

**Order of Salvation**

**1. Election (God’s choosing)**

*“Ordo Salutis”*

**Order of Salvation**

- 1. Election (God’s choosing)**
- 2. The Gospel Call (Hearing the gospel)**

# *“Ordo Salutis”*

## Order of Salvation

1. Election (God’s choosing)
2. The Gospel Call (Hearing the gospel)
3. Regeneration (being born again)

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5. Justification (right legal standing)



# *“Ordo Salutis”*

## Order of Salvation

1. Election (God’s choosing)
2. The Gospel Call (Hearing the gospel)
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4. Conversion (faith and repentance)
5. Justification (right legal standing)
6. Adoption (membership in God’s family)

# *“Ordo Salutis”*

## Order of Salvation

7. Sanctification (right conduct in life)
8. Perseverance (remaining a Christian)
9. Death (going to be with the Lord)
10. Glorification (resurrected body)

## John 3:1-8

3 Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

## John 3:1-8

<sup>3</sup> Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

<sup>4</sup> “How can someone be born when they are old?”

Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. <sup>7</sup> You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’”

## John 3:1-8

<sup>8</sup> The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”



## John 6:34-68

<sup>34</sup>“Sir,” they said, “always give us this bread.”

<sup>35</sup>Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. <sup>36</sup>But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. <sup>37</sup>All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. <sup>38</sup>For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. <sup>39</sup>And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day.

## John 6:34-68

<sup>40</sup>For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day." <sup>41</sup>At this the Jews there began to grumble about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." <sup>42</sup>They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I came down from heaven'?"

## John 6:34-68

<sup>43</sup>“Stop grumbling among yourselves,” Jesus answered.

<sup>44</sup>“No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day. <sup>45</sup>It

is written in the Prophets: ‘They will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard the Father and learned from him comes to me. <sup>46</sup>No one has seen the Father

except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father. <sup>47</sup>Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life.

**I. What is Regeneration?**

**II. When/How does it take place?**

**III. Why does this matter?**

## 1 Peter 1:3-8

<sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

## 1 Peter 1:3-8

<sup>6</sup> In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. <sup>7</sup> These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith – of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire – may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

*What difference does Regeneration make?*

**It is the source of your power to overcome  
sin!**

**G.**

**U.**

**P.**

**A.**

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**Gospel Realities**

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**U.tter Dependence on the Holy Spirit**

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**P.athway**

**A.ccountability**





# Gospel Application:

*Will you see the beauty of Christ today and freely choose him?*

*Will you glorify the Christ who died for your sins?*