



HOPE

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1517



2017

AMAZING GRACE

The Reformation to the Glory of God

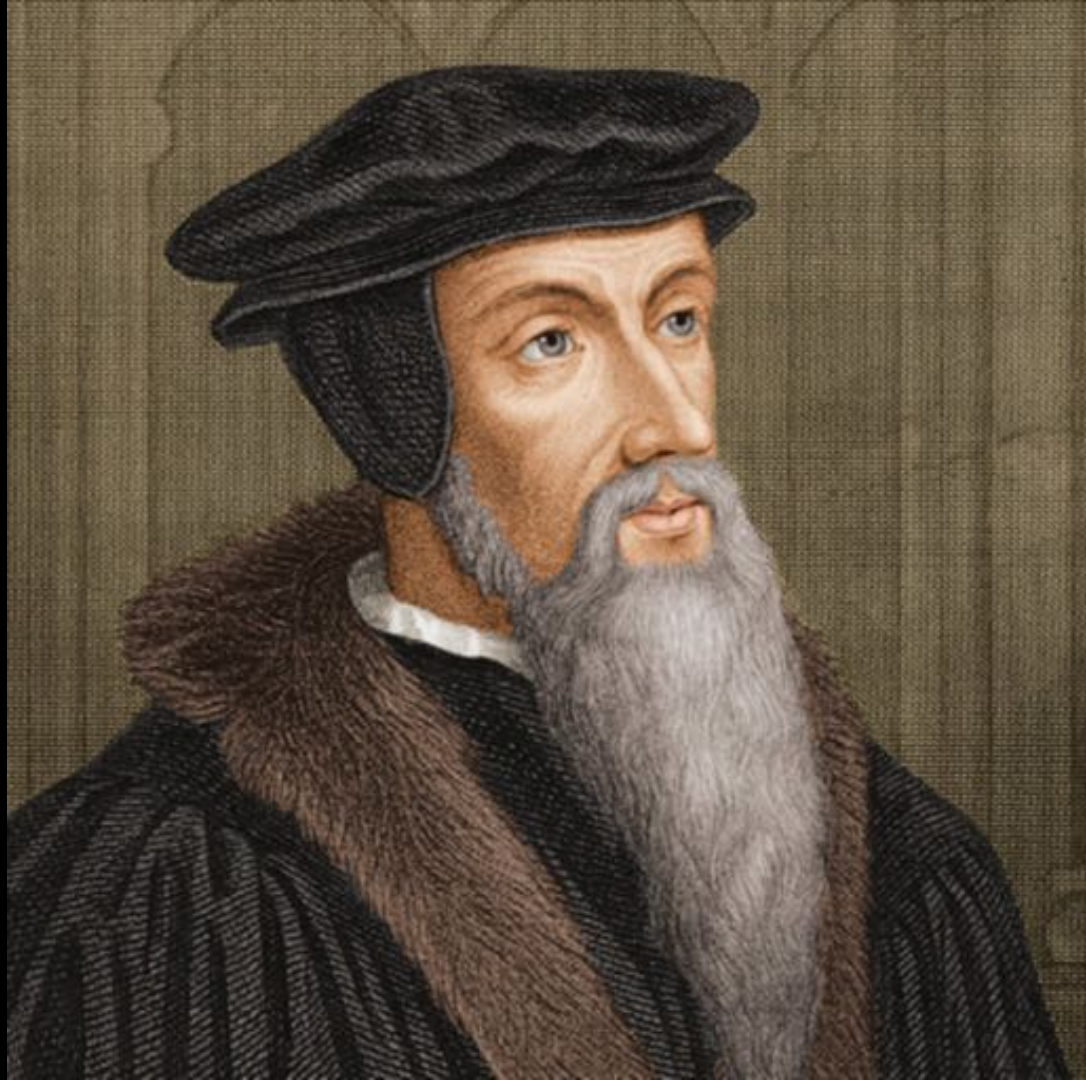


SEVEN GOSPEL

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





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THE
DOCTRINES
OF GRACE

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Last Week's Message:

Total Depravity:

*Tainted Image Bearers
in Need of a Savior*

Theology Matters

You a man expect an answer from me: I also am a man. Wherefore, let us both listen to him who says, 'O man, who art thou?'

[The apostle] Paul found rest, because he found wonder. He calls the judgments of God 'unsearchable;' and have you come to search them? He says that (God's) ways are 'past finding out,' and do you seek to find them out?"



St. Augustine,
de Verb. Apost. Serm. 20
354-430

Believing ignorance is better than presumptuous knowledge. Seek merits; you will find nought but punishment. O the height! Peter denies, a thief believes. O the height! Do you ask the reason? I will tremble at the height. Reason you, I will wonder; dispute you, I will believe.



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I see the height; I cannot sound the depth.



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Today's Sermon:

*Unconditional Election: The Necessary First
Work of God.*

I. Definition of Terms

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A. Unconditional

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B. Election

Ephesians 1:3-11

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will — ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

Ephesians 1:3-11

⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, ⁹ he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰ to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment – to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

Ephesians 1:3-11

¹¹ In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will,

What is “unconditional election”?

Election is the voluntary initiative act of God before creation in which he chose some people to be saved through Christ because of his sovereign will, pleasure and mercy, not on account of any foreseen merit in the people

I believe the doctrine of election, because I am quite certain that, if God had not chosen me, I should never have chosen Him; and I am sure He chose me before I was born, or else He never would have chosen me afterwards; and He must have elected me for reasons unknown to me, for I never could find in myself why He should have looked upon me with special love. So I am forced to accept that great Biblical doctrine.

CHARLES SPURGEON



I. Definition of Terms

A. Unconditional

B. Election

II. Show me the Scripture

I. Definition of Terms

A. Unconditional

B. Election

II. Show me the Scripture

A. Old Testament

Deuteronomy 7:6-8

6 For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession.

7 The Lord did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. 8 But it was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 10:14-15

14 To the Lord your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it. 15 Yet the Lord set his affection on your ancestors and loved them, and he chose you, their descendants, above all the nations — as it is today.

I. Definition of Terms

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II. Show me the Scripture

A. Old Testament

B. New Testament

Acts 13: 44-48

44 On the next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. 45 When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy. They began to contradict what Paul was saying and heaped abuse on him.

46 Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: “We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles.

Acts 13: 44-48

47 For this is what the Lord has commanded us:

“ ‘I have made you a light for the Gentiles,
that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.’ ”

48 When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed.

1 John 4:19

We love because he first loved us.

2 Timothy 1:9-10

9 He has saved us and called us to a holy life — not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, 10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

1 Peter 1:1-2

¹ Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,
To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the
provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia
and Bithynia, ² who have been chosen according
to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through
the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient
to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood:
Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

What is great about these passages is none of them are trying to teach the doctrine of election. None of them are, but it just shows it is so assumed by every biblical writer, including Jesus himself. You're not chosen by God because you believe; you believe in God because you're chosen.

~ Keller, T. J. (2013). The Timothy Keller Sermon Archive.
New York City: Redeemer Presbyterian Church.



I. Definition of Terms

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B. Election

II. Show me the Scripture

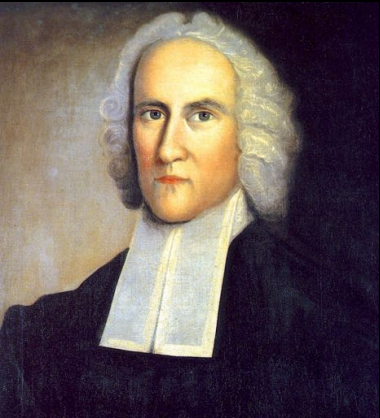
A. Old Testament

B. New Testament

III. What about free will?

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.*

Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵ When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: ¹⁷ 'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁸ His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. “We are your slaves,” they said.

¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹ So then, don’t be afraid. I will provide for you and your children.” And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

I. Definition of Terms

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A. Old Testament

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III. What about free will?

A. Do my choices even matter?

Ephesians 1:12-14

¹² in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. ¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession — to the praise of his glory.

IV. Does this doctrine really matter?

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A. Yes

IV. Does this doctrine really matter?

A. Yes

B. Yes

Mark 2:26-29

²⁶ He also said, “This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground.

²⁷ Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. ²⁸ All by itself the soil produces grain – first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. ²⁹ As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.”

IV. Does this doctrine really matter?

A. Yes

B. Yes

V. How do I know if I'm elect?

Romans 8:31-35

31 What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? 33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. 34 Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

IV. Does this doctrine really matter?

A. Yes

B. Yes

V. How do I know if I'm elect?

A. What are you trusting in right now?

If I see in God's Book two truths which I cannot square with one another, I believe them both.

CHARLES SPURGEON



Romans 11:33-36

33 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

34 “Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?”

35 “Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them?” 36 For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

Gospel Application:

Will you worship and glorify God because he loved you first?

Can you see the height of God and continue to wrestle with the fact that we cannot sound his depth?