


Divine Control &
Human Freedom:
TULIP vs TCURP

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Spring 2008



TULIP



TULIP

- # Total depravity
- # Unconditional election
- # Limited atonement
- # Irresistible grace
- # Perseverance of the saints

[www.mslick.com/tulip.htm]

Total Depravity

- # Desperate condition of fallen sinners apart from God (Eph. 2:1)
- # Human condition: Mark 7:21-23; Jer. 17:19; Rom. 6:20, 3:10-12; 1 Cor. 2:14; Eph. 2:15, 2:3
- # Only by God's will: Jn. 1:12-13; Phil. 1:29; Jn. 6:28-29; Acts 13:48; Eph. 1:1-11; Rom. 8:29, 9:9-23
- # Not much dispute among many Christian traditions.

Unconditional Election

- # In His sovereign grace, God has chosen to rescue certain sinners.
- # Eph. 1:4-8, Rom. 9:11, Rom. 9:15,21
- # Unconditional: independent on God's foreknowledge of person's faith, obedience, etc.

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Limited Atonement

- # Christ died only for the elect.
- # Matt. 26:28; Is. 53:12 ("many", not "all")
- # John 10:11,15; Matt. 25:32-33; John 17:9; Acts 20:28; Eph. 5:25-27
- # Hard Calvinists also affirm "double predestination."

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Irresistible Grace

- # The elect cannot resist God's grace.
- # Rom. 9:16; Phil. 2:12-13; John 6:28-29; Acts 13:48; John 1:12-13
- # Calvinists deny that God "forces" Himself on us, and that humans are still free.

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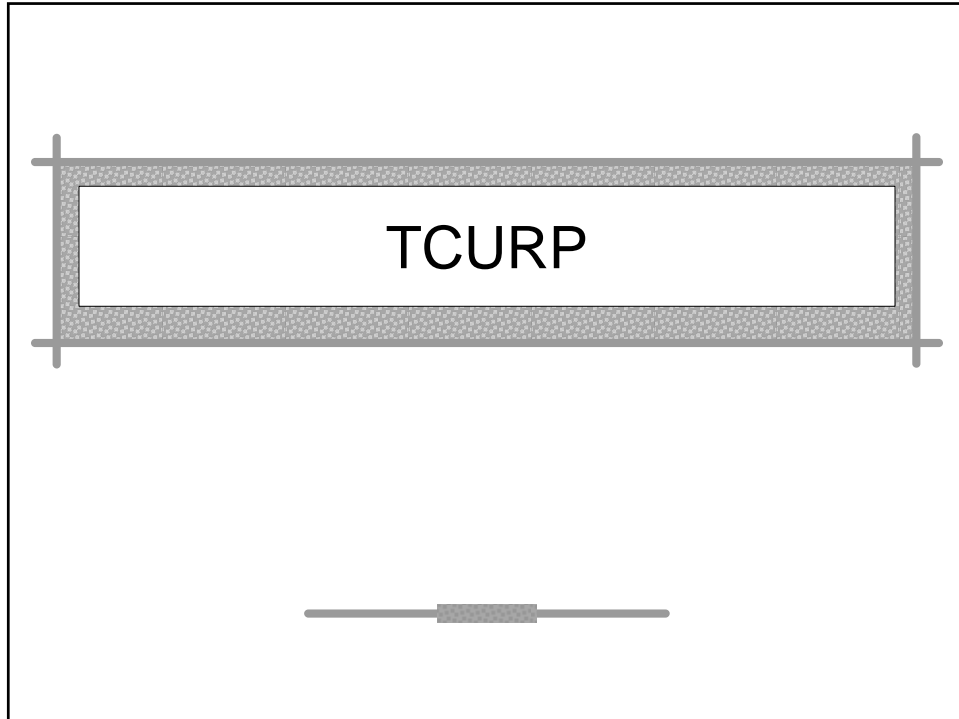
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Perseverance of the Saints

- # The elect are eternally secure.
- # John 10:27-28, 6:47; Rom. 8:1; 1 Cor. 10:13; Phil. 1:6
- # Some non-Calvinists also affirm this notion.

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TCURP?

- # Total depravity
- # Conditional election
- # Unlimited atonement
- # Resistible grace
- # Present assurance of salvation.

[www.xenos.org/classes/principles/cpu1w6.htm]

Depravity and Inability

- # Both Calvinists and Arminians affirm human depravity and original sin.
- # But there is a difference: In Arminianism, depravity refers to “the natural man” [Wesley], one who is utterly without God’s grace. But no such person exists. (In Calvinism, depravity is the condition of actual humans.)
- # Arminian “inability” is hypothetical.

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Election

- # God “wants” all to be save:
2 Pet. 3:9, 1 Tim. 2:4, Ezek. 18:23
- # Salvation conditioned on human act of belief:
Eph. 1:13, Gal. 2:16, Rom. 4:4,5
- # Predestination
 - Corporate
 - Service, not salvation
 - Conditional upon faith in Christ
 - Temporal

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Atonement

- # Traditional view: Christ's atonement is "substitutionary."
(Even Wesley affirmed this.)
- # Arminian view: atonement is "governmental" (Christ's death was not our *penal* substitution).

Grace

- # Prevenient grace: God's grace that precedes salvation.
- # In Arminianism, prevenient grace is universal and overcomes hypothetical inability.
- # Hence, grace is resistable.

Perseverance

- # Perseverance of the saints incompatible with apostasy passages in Hebrews?
- # Heb. 2:1-4; 3:7-4:11; 5:11-6:12; 10:26-39; 12:14-29.
- # What about Heb. 6:17-20, 7:23-25?