


Divine Control &  
Human Freedom:  
TULIP vs TCURP

Edwin Chong  
Spring 2008



TULIP



# TULIP

---

- # **T**otal depravity
- # **U**nconditional election
- # **L**imited atonement
- # **I**rresistible grace
- # **P**erseverance of the saints

[[www.mslick.com/tulip.htm](http://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.

Spring 2008

5

## 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."

Spring 2008

6

## 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.

Spring 2008

7

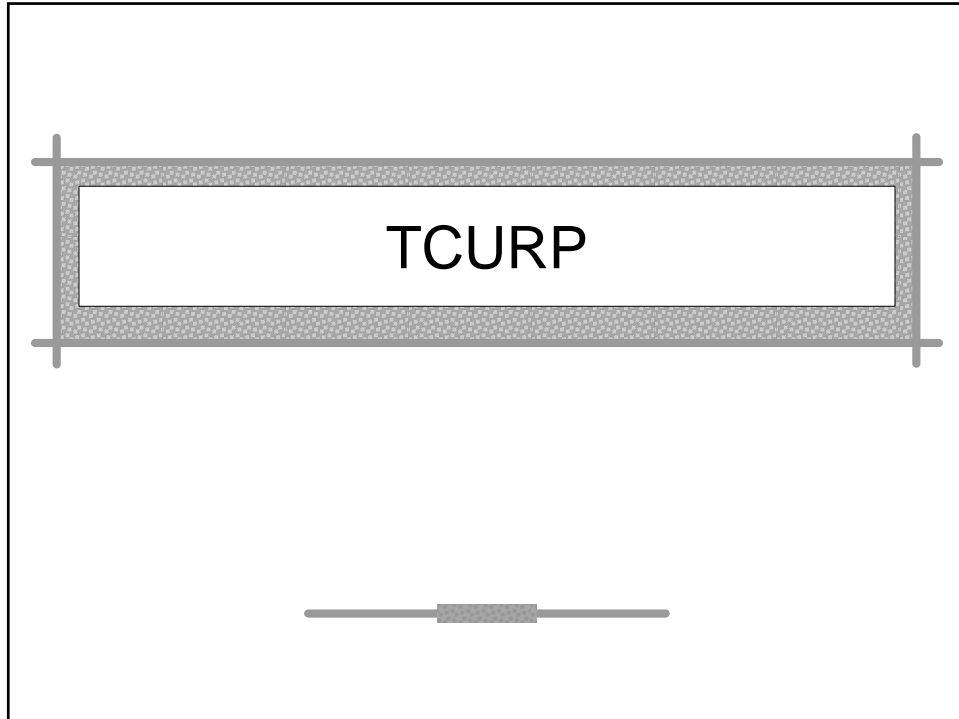
## Perseverance of the Saints

---

- # 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.

Spring 2008

8



## TCURP?

---

- # **T**otal depravity
- # **C**onditional election
- # **U**nlimited atonement
- # **R**esistible grace
- # **P**resent assurance of salvation.

[[www.xenos.org/classes/principles/cpu1w6.htm](http://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.

Spring 2008

11

## 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

Spring 2008

12

## 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?