


**Calvinism :**  
**Perseverance of the Saints**

- **T.U.L.I.P;** Calvin's doctrinal system as it relates to the spiritual condition of man.
  - **T**otal Hereditary Depravity
  - U**nconditional Election
  - L**imited Atonement
  - I**rresistible Grace
  - P**erseverance of the Saints



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“This doctrine does not stand alone but is a necessary part of the Calvinistic system of theology. The doctrines of Election and irresistible grace logically imply the certain salvation of those who receive these blessings. If God has chosen men absolutely and unconditionally to eternal life, and if His Spirit applies to them the benefits of redemption, the inescapable `conclusion is that these persons shall be saved. And, historically, this doctrine has been held by all Calvinists. (Loraine Goettner, The Reformed Doctrine of Predestination, p 182)



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- Definition of Terms
  - *Perseverance* – The Calvinistic doctrine that those who have been chosen by God will continue in a state of grace to the end and will finally be saved. (*The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition Copyright © 2000*)
  - *Saints* – Sanctified people (Christians)
  - Often called “Once saved, always saved”



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- What Do The Creeds of Men Say?
- “They whom God hath accepted in His Beloved, effectually called and sanctified by His Spirit, can neither totally nor finally fall away from the state of Grace but shall certainly persevere therein to the end, and be eternally saved.” (Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter 17)



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- What Do The Creeds of Men Say?
  - “We take the position that a Christian’s sins do not damn his soul. The way a Christian lives, what he says, his character, his conduct, or his attitude towards other people have nothing whatever to do with the salvation of his soul....All the prayers a man may pray all the Bibles he may read, all the churches he may belong to, all the services he may attend, all the sermons he may practice , all the debts he may pay, all the ordinances he may observe, all the laws he may keep, all the benevolent acts he may perform will not make his soul on whit safer; and all the sins he may commit from idolatry to murder will not make his soul in any more danger...The way a man lives has nothing whatsoever to do with the salvation of his soul...The way I live has nothing whatsoever to do with the salvation of my soul (Sam Morris, First Baptist Church preacher, “Do a Christian’s Sins Damn His Soul?”)



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- What We Are Not Questioning
- *God’s power*
  - The Bible teaches it is sure, it is reliable
    - 1 Pet. 1:5
  - Falling away does not come due to any failure on God’s part.
  - One’s own faith may fail as evidenced by these passages:  
1 Tim. 1:19; 4:1; 5:8, 5:12; 6:21

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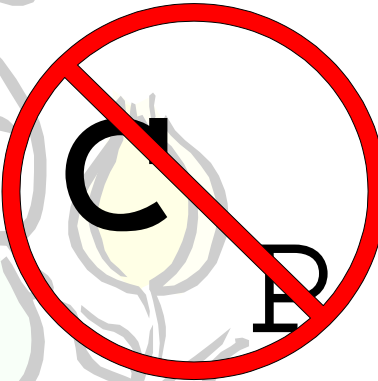
**Perseverance of the  
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- What We Are Not Questioning
- *God's faithfulness*
  - He truly is faithful.
    - 2 Tim. 1:12
  - God will be faithful but are we?
    - Rev. 2:10
- *God's love*
  - Rom. 8:38-39
  - But we must keep ourselves in the love of God.
  - Jude 21

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- Calvin's Proof Texts???
- **Jn 5:24**
  - Yes God keeps those that hear and believe, but can one stop hearing and believing?
  - 2 Tim. 4:3-4; Heb. 3:12; Ps. 106:12, 24
- **Jn. 10:27-29**
  - Can one cease to follow? (Jn. 6:66)



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- Calvin's Proof Texts???
- **Jn. 6:37**
  - The promise is for the one who comes!
  - But its not talking about the one that ceases to come!
  - Christ will not cast out the one that comes, but to the one that ceases to abide he will (Jn 15:6)
- **2 Tim. 2:11-13**
  - Note He remains faithful to Himself, because He cannot deny himself.
  - But He can deny the faithless (v12)
  - Rom. 3:3 – the unbeliever does not thwart the will of God.

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- Philosophical Arguments
- **Can a child be unborn?**
  - If a Child of God can never be unborn, what about a child of the devil?
  - That is how we all start according to Calvinism, we are born in sin, sin is a product of the devil, therefore we are children of the devil.
  - How can a child of the devil be unborn but not a child of God?
  - The illustration does not work! The issue is not about being unborn but can a child of God be lost (Jas. 5:19-20)?

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- Philosophical Arguments
- **If one leaves the church they were never really saved in the first place.**
  - Their argument was just assumed, never proven from scripture.
  - What about the reverse? If one is saved, were they never truly lost?
- **The sins of the flesh do not affect the soul**
  - One verse brings this crashing down – 1 Pet. 2:11




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**Examples of those that did fall from Grace**

- **Simon**
  - Ax. 8:5-24
- **Hymenaeus and Alexander**
  - 1 Tim. 1:19-20
- **Philetus and others**
  - 2 Tim. 2:17-18
- **Ananias and Sapphira**
  - Ax. 5:1-10
- **Christians that wish to use the law of Moses to justify themselves**
  - **Gal. 5:3-4** (to 'fall' from grace implies one must have been 'in' grace!)





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- Crystal Clear Passages
- Lk. 12:42-43, Jn. 15:1-6, Heb. 6:4-6
- "But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified." (1 Cor 9:27)
- "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall." (1 Cor 10:12)




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- Crystal Clear Passages
- "Therefore, brethren, we are debtors -  
- not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live." (Rom 8:12-14)



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Crystal Clear Passages

- "For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire." (2 Peter 2:20-22)



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- Calvinism has sent millions of souls to hell.
- It robs man of his responsibility
- It makes God responsible for every lost soul



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Let us uproot this  
soul-damning  
doctrine of  
Calvinism!

