

Is God's Grace Irresistible?

“These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.” -Acts 17:11 NKJV



John Calvin

“(There are) those who attribute ... a government (to God) which consists in giving an impulse and general movement to the machine of the globe and each of its parts, but does not specially direct the action of every creature. It is impossible, however, to tolerate this error. For, according to its abettors, there is nothing in this providence, which they call universal, to prevent all the creatures from being moved contingently, or to prevent man from turning himself in this direction or in that, according to the mere freedom of his own will.”

The Westminster Confession

“This effectual call [to salvation] is of God's free and special grace alone, not from any thing at all foreseen in man, who is altogether passive therein, until, being quickened and renewed by the Holy Spirit, he is thereby enabled to answer this call, and to embrace the grace offered and conveyed by it.”

The Westminster Confession

“God from all eternity, did ... unchangeably ordain whatsoever comes to pass”

Edward T. Hiscox

“That regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the Holy Spirit, in connection with Divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel.”

- *Standard Manual for Baptist Churches*

David N. Steele and Curtis C. Thomas

“Although the general outward call of the dispel can be, and often is, rejected, the special inward call of the Spirit never fails to result in the conversion of those to whom it is made. This special call is not made to all sinners but is issued to the elect only' The Spirit is in no way dependent upon their help or cooperation for success in His work of bringing them to Christ. It is for this reason that Calvinists speak of the Spirit's call and of God's grace in saving sinners as being 'efficacious,' 'invincible,' or 'irresistible.' For the grace which the Holy Spirit extends to the elect cannot be thwarted or refused, it never fails to bring them to true faith in Christ.”

*- The Five Points of Calvinism, Defined, Defended, Documented:
Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Co., 1975, p.49*

Is God's Grace Irresistible?

- If it is, it forces contradictions



Psalm 119:160 (NKJV)

“The entirety of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.”

II Timothy 3:16,17 (NKJV)

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

Is God's Grace Irresistible?

- If it is, it forces contradictions
- If it is, it overrules men's freewill



Deuteronomy 30:15-18 (NKJV)

“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, "in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the LORD your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess. "But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, "I announce to you today that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong your days in the land which you cross over the Jordan to go in and possess.”

Joshua 24:15 (NKJV)

“And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

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John 15:6,7 (NKJV)

“If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.”

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- If it is, it overrules men's freewill
- God's grace was resisted



Matthew 23:37 (NKJV)

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!”

Acts 7:51 (NKJV)

“You stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you.”

I Timothy 2:4 (NKJV)

“who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

Acts 13:46 (NKJV)

“Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles.”

Is God's Grace Irresistible?

- If it is, it forces contradictions
- If it is, it overrules men's freewill
- God's grace was resisted
- It forces God to be a respecter of persons



Romans 2:11 (NKJV)

“For there is no partiality with God.”

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- It forces God to be a respecter of persons
- It denies that God wants to save everyone



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“who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

II Peter 3:9 (NKJV)

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”

Titus 2:11,12 (NKJV)

“For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,”

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- Examining some verses used to support the doctrine



Acts 16:14 (NKJV)

“Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul.”

Romans 8:7 (NKJV)

“Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.”

John 6:44,45 (NKJV)

“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. "It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me.”

John 6:65 (NKJV)

“And He said, “Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father.””

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