

The “Doctrines of Grace”

Radical (root) Corruption (Total Depravity)

God’s Sovereign Choice (Unconditional Election)

Particular Redemption (Limited Atonement)

Effective Calling (Irresistible Grace)

Preservation of God’s people (Perseverance of the saints)

How lost are men unless God shows them mercy?

John 10:26 “But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep”

What ability do people have in and of themselves?

Ephesians 2:1 “As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins...” (Cf. Romans 3:10-18)

Are people “dead in trespasses and sins” until the Holy Spirit makes them alive? (Cf. Lazarus)

A person is totally helpless to believe if that person is not of His sheep.

This is radical corruption.

How does anyone ever get to be one of Christ’s sheep?

John 10:29 “My Father, who has given them to me...”

Ephesians 1:3-5 “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 to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will...”

Titus 3:5 “He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.”

This is called God’s sovereign choice, or “Unconditional Election”.

Who did Jesus die for?

John 10:11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” Jesus says they are: “My sheep” John 10:26

The doctrine of justification requires “particular redemption” because if Jesus paid the penalty for everyone’s sins then no one could be held accountable and we become universalists.

This is called Particular redemption or “Limited Atonement”.

How do the sheep know that they are His sheep and what do they do?

John 10:27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.
Again cf. Lazarus.

1 Peter 1:23 “For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

This is called “Irresistible Grace”.

How secure are Jesus’ sheep?

John 10:28 “And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of my hand.”

Romans 8:29-30 “For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

Philippians 1:6 “he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus

This is called the Preservation and Perseverance of the Saints

William Hendriksen summarizes John 10:27-30 as follows:

“My sheep having become such because they were given to me by the Father (10: 29) put forth an effort to catch the sound of my voice. They do this constantly. They eagerly obey me, placing their full confidence in me. I know them, acknowledging them as my very own. They follow me, but turn away from strangers. I give to them here and now (as well as in the future) that life which is rooted in God and which pertains to the future age, to the realm of glory. In principle it becomes their possession even before they reach the shores of heaven. That life is salvation full and free, and manifests itself in fellowship with God and Christ (17:3); in partaking of the love of God (5:3) of his peace (16:33) and of his joy (17:13). Hence, it differs in quality from the life which characterizes the present age, being it's very opposite. And it never ends. The sheep shall certainly never perish; i.e., they shall never enter the state of wrath, the condition of being banished forever from the presence of the God of love. And no one shall snatch them out of my hand (symbolizing God's power).”

It is all of grace!