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## Introduction

Interpret universal passages in light of the particular passages. The reverse ends up in contradictions between the universal and particular passages.

## “All” or “Every” Passages

### The Context of All

Acts 26:4

Acts 2:17a

1 Timothy 6:10

Romans 3:21-24

Romans 3:9-10

### Universal Atonement Passages

#### John

John 12:32

John 12:20-23

John 12:27-33

#### 1 Timothy and Titus

1 Timothy 2:1-7

1 Timothy 4:10 (ESV)

Titus 2:11

#### 2 Peter

2 Peter 3:8-9



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God has one will but typically theologians distinguish between three aspects of God's will, his will of decree (decretive will), his will of precept (preceptive will), and his will of disposition. Another way to look at God's will is his hidden will and his revealed will. Deuteronomy 29:29

Decretive will – Job 42:2, Isaiah 46:8-11, Numbers 23:19, Daniel 4:35, Psalm 115:3, Ephesians 1:11

Decretive/Preceptive will – Exodus 4:21-23, Exodus 9:16, Acts 2:22-23

Will of disposition – Ezekiel 18:23, Ezekiel 33:11, Matthew 23:37

2 Peter 3:8-10

2 Peter 1:1

The Father wills (decrees) to give his people to the Son. John 6:37, John 17:6

The Father wills the Son die for his people. John 10:11, John 10:14-15

The Father wills the Son not lose a single one of his people and ultimately raise them from the dead. John 6:38-39, John 6:44, John 10:16

2 Peter 3:9 does not support a universal atonement. It is a clear statement of the specific focus of the atonement of Christ. God is patiently holding back judgment because he will see the repentance of all those redeemed by Christ at the cross.

## **“World” Passages**

John 3:16-17

1 John 2:15

1 John 2:2

2 Corinthians 5:18-19

## **Amyraldianism**

Four point Calvinists reject definite atonement and are called Amyraldians because they believe what is called Amyraldianism.



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All of the major Reformed confessions have rejected Amyraldianism for three major reasons.

1. Amyraldianism has the persons of the Trinity working with different purposes. By God's decree the Son dies in order to save all people, and by God's decree the Spirit only applies the work of Christ to some.
2. Because the Son and Spirit are simply fulfilling what the Father has decreed for them, the implication is there is irrationality in the Father's decrees.
3. Because Amyraldianism holds that Christ's death was intended to save every single person, this joins them with true universal atonement adherents, which necessarily rejects a true substitutionary atonement. You can either have universal atonement or penal substitutionary atonement but not both.