

INTRO TO

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# CALVINISM

**Mondays from 6:30pm-7:30pm | 10/2 to 11/6 | Register at [KitsapChurch.org](https://KitsapChurch.org)**

OPENING COMMENTS.

WHAT IS PELAGIANISM?

WHO WAS IT THAT INSPIRED THE  
REMONSTRANTS?

WHAT ARE THE FIVE POINTS?

# THE FIVE POINTS OF CALVINISM (T.U.L.I.P.)

- **1: Total Depravity/Total Inability.**
- **2: Unconditional Election.**
- **3: Limited Atonement/Particular Atonement.**
- **4: Irresistible Grace/Effectual Calling.**
- **5: Perseverance of the Saints.**

“The term irresistible grace is subject to misunderstanding, however, since it seems to imply that people do not make a voluntary, willing choice in responding to the gospel - a wrong idea, and a wrong understanding of the term irresistible grace.”

-Wayne Grudem



# REMONSTRANTS

**The Spirit calls inwardly all those who are called outwardly by the gospel invitation; He does all that He can do to bring every sinner to salvation. But inasmuch as man is free, he can successfully resist the Spirit's call. The Spirit cannot regenerate the sinner until he believes; faith (which is man's contribution) precedes and makes possible the new birth. Thus, man's free will limits the Spirit in the application of Christ's saving work. The Holy Spirit can only draw to Christ those who allow Him to have His way with them. Until the sinner responds, the Spirit cannot give life. God's grace, therefore, is not invincible; it can be, and often is, resisted and thwarted by men."**



# CANONS OF DORT

**The fact that many who are called through the ministry of the gospel do not come and are not brought to conversion must not be blamed on the gospel, nor on Christ, who is offered through the gospel, nor on God, who calls them through the gospel and even bestows various gifts on them, but on the people themselves who are called. Some in self-assurance do not even entertain the Word of life; others do entertain it but do not take it to heart, and for that reason, after the fleeting joy of a temporary faith, they relapse; others choke the seed of the Word with the thorns of life's cares and with the pleasures of the world and bring forth no fruits. This our Savior teaches in the parable of the sower**

# CANONS OF DORT

**The fact that others who are called through the ministry of the gospel do come and are brought to conversion must not be credited to human effort, as though one distinguishes oneself by free choice from others who are furnished with equal or sufficient grace for faith and conversion (as the proud heresy of Pelagius maintains). No, it must be credited to God: just as from eternity God chose his own in Christ, so within time God effectively calls them, grants them faith and repentance, and, having rescued them from the dominion of darkness, brings them into the kingdom of his Son, in order that they may declare the wonderful deeds of the One who called them out of darkness into this marvelous light, and may boast not in themselves, but in the Lord, as apostolic words frequently testify in Scripture.**

# CANONS OF DORT

**Moreover, when God carries out this good pleasure in the elect, or works true conversion in them, God not only sees to it that the gospel is proclaimed to them outwardly, and enlightens their minds powerfully by the Holy Spirit so that they may rightly understand and discern the things of the Spirit of God, but, by the effective operation of the same regenerating Spirit, God also penetrates into the inmost being, opens the closed heart, softens the hard heart, and circumcises the heart that is uncircumcised. God infuses new qualities into the will, making the dead will alive, the evil one good, the unwilling one willing, and the stubborn one compliant. God activates and strengthens the will so that, like a good tree, it may be enabled to produce the fruits of good deeds.**

## Westminster Confession, Chapter X, part I

**All those whom God hath predestinated unto life, and those only, He is pleased, in His appointed time, effectually to call, by His Word and Spirit, out of that state of sin and death, in which they are by nature to grace and salvation, by Jesus Christ; enlightening their minds spiritually and savingly to understand the things of God, taking away their heart of stone, and giving unto them an heart of flesh; renewing their wills, and, by His almighty power, determining them to that which is good, and effectually drawing them to Jesus Christ: yet so, as they come most freely, being made willing by His grace.**

**“When God intends to bring someone to faith in Christ, he cannot fail, although for his own reasons he may choose to wrestle long with a person before achieving that purpose...God’s election always precedes, and is the source of our response to faith.”**

-John Frame



**“Chosen in Christ from all eternity, we are called effectually to Christ in time. Through faith, which is itself is God’s gracious gift, we receive Christ and all of his benefits.”**

-Michael Horton



# WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

1. Distinction between the outward and inward call.
2. Regeneration precedes faith & repentance.
3. Faith is a gift that must be given.
4. All who are called inwardly will and do freely believe.

# DEUTERONOMY 30:6

**And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your offspring, so that you will love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.**



## EZEKIEL 36:26-27

**26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.**

## EZEKIEL 37:1-6

**1 The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. 2 And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. 3 And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." 4 Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. 5 Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. 6 And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."**

# JOHN 1:12-13

**12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.**

# JOHN 3:1-9

**1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." 3 Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." 4 Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."**

## JOHN 6:64-65

**64 But there are some of you who do not believe."(For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.)**

**65 And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father."**

# ACTS 5:31

**God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.**

## ACTS 11:18

**When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."**

## TITUS 3:5

**he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,**



# 1 PETER 1:3

**Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,**

## ROMANS 8:30

**30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.**

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# DOXOLOGY & DISCIPLESHIP

**Q: What questions do you have about Irresistible Grace?**

**Q: How can the doctrine of Irresistible Grace lead us to worship God?**

**Q: How does the doctrine of Irresistible Grace affect our discipleship?**

