

Diving Deep into your Salvation

Tough Stuff – Difficult to BELIEVE – The Doctrines of Grace

Introduction

Acts 17:11 received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily, to see whether these things were so

#1 Fallen people on their own cannot BELIEVE the gospel

Ephesians 2:1 And you were dead in your trespasses and sin.

John 15:16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you

Romans 5:12 just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned. **2 Chronicles 6:36** (for there is no man who does not sin) **Ecclesiastes 7:20** there is not a righteous man on earth who continually does good and who never sins. **Romans 3:10** "There is none righteous, not even one; 11 There is none who understands, There is none who seeks for God; 12 All have turned aside, together they have become useless; There is none who does good, There is not even one.

John 10:10b I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly.

1 Corinthians 2:14 But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.

John 6:44 "No one can come to Me, **unless** the Father who sent Me **draws** him; and I will raise him up on the last day.

James 2:6b Is it not the rich who oppress you and personally drag you into court?

Acts 16:19 ...they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the authorities,

#2 God's CHOICE of a sinner is the cause of their salvation

God Ultimately Responsible	Man Ultimately Responsible
God's choice unconditional	God's choice dependant on man's choice.
God chose in eternity past	God's choice determined by present events
Fallen man cannot choose God	Fallen man can choose God
Faith is a gift of God	Faith is possible for all men
Justice is found in God's character	Justice is found in equal opportunity

John 15:16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you **Ephesians 1:4** just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world 11...we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will **2 Thessalonians 2:13**...because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation

Romans 9:11 for though the twins were not yet born, and had not done anything good or bad, in order that God's purpose according to His choice might stand, not because of works, but because of Him who calls, 12 it was said to her, "The older will serve the younger." 13 Just as it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

John 6:65b no one can come to Me, unless it has been granted him from the Father."

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God.

1 Peter 1:1 Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:29 For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake.

Romans 9:20 Who are you, O man who answers back to God. The thing molded will not say to the molder Why did you make me like this will it

Acts 18:10 I have many people in this city. **Acts 13:48** as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed **Romans 10:13** Whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved. How then shall they call upon Him in whom they have not believed. And how shall they believe in Him who they have not heard. And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent.

Romans 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!

#3 Christ's death actually SAVED His people

Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood

1 Peter 1:18 you were not redeemed with perishable things ... but with precious blood

Matthew 1:21 she will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins.

Titus 2:14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

#4 God's GRACE always accomplishes its saving purpose

Romans 8:30 and whom He predestined, these he also called and whom He called these He also justified and whom He justified, these He also glorified

Malachi 3:6 For I, the Lord do not change.

Acts 13:48 when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed. Acts 16:14 a certain woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul. Acts 18:10 for I am with you, and no man will attack you in order to harm you, for I have many people in this city.

#5 Those chosen by God are FOREVER saved

John 10:27-28 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand.

John 6:39 And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day.

Secure Salvation	Non-Secure Salvation
Believer's cannot lose their salvation	Believers can lose their salvation
God chooses, therefore His salvation cannot be rejected.	Man chooses God, and can repudiate his former choice.
Security depends on the character of God.	Security depends on the will of man.
Security is based on standing.	Security is based on obedience.
Security and Assurance are separate issues.	Security and Assurance are the same.

1 Peter 1:5 who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Is this really FAIR? *Romans 9:14 What shall we say then? There is no injustice with God, is there? May it never be! 15 For He says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." 16 So then it does not depend on the man who wills or the man who runs, but on God who has mercy.*

Don't slip into ERROR

Don't become PASSIVE or indifferent

Don't become ARGUMENTATIVE

Do grow in HUMILITY *2 Corinthians 9:15 Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!*

Do respond to the GOSPEL

Matthew 11:28 ...Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

Acts 2:38 Peter said to them, Repent, and let each one of you be baptized.

Romans 10:21...All the day long I have stretched out My hands to a disobedient and obstinate people

Do share the answer for peoples greatest NEED

Resources for further study

Go to evbc.org and listen to God's plan for salvation 2004 or 2006 by Tom Shrader

Go to gty.org and listen to The doctrines of Grace by John MacArthur Read The Doctrines of Grace by James Boice

Some of my friends who also hold these beliefs – Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli, John Calvin, Charles Spurgeon, John Piper, RC Sproul, John MacArthur, and many many more

Each sermon is recorded on MP3 and is available for free each Tuesday on the FBC website www.faith-bible.net