

### My Personal Goals for this Study

1. It is not my goal to win a debate.
2. It is not my goal to settle theological differences that have existed for 1700 years.
3. It is not my goal to please anyone except God.
4. It is my goal as a pastor/teacher to glorify God by teaching:
  - theology – the study of God.
  - soteriology – the study of salvation.

Our study will deal with the relationship between the sovereignty of God and the responsibility of man as they pertain to the miracle of salvation. God's sovereignty and man's freedom to choose.

5. It is my goal to compare and contrast the teachings of Calvinism, Arminianism and Traditionalism and to attempt to show whether or not these teachings are supported by Scripture.

### Why is this study important?

1. Our position on these issues determines how we communicate the character of God to a lost and dying world. "What is God like?"
2. Our position on these issues determines how we communicate the miracle of salvation to a lost and dying world.
  - "What is the meaning of salvation?"
  - "Who can be saved?"
3. In light of the current atmosphere of the Southern Baptist Convention, every Southern Baptist must have an understanding of these issues.

### Ground Rules for Our Study

1. Pray
2. Be humble
3. Remember our priorities
4. After the service...
5. Emails
6. Groups

## General Statements About our Study

1. There will be much repetition.
2. There may be more depth and detail than many will desire.
3. There will be too many generalizations.
4. My position will be clear.
5. I will try to be fair.

## Key Definitions

### 1. Calvinism

A view of salvation named after sixteenth century French reformer John Calvin that emphasizes the sovereignty of God in all things and de-emphasizes man's ability to respond to God.

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A view of salvation named after sixteenth century French reformer John Calvin that so emphasizes the sovereignty of God in all things that it denies the biblical teaching of man's ability to respond to God.

### 2. Arminianism

A view of salvation named after seventeenth century Dutch theologian Jacobus Arminius that emphasizes the free will of man in all things and de-emphasizes the sovereignty of God.

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A view of salvation named after seventeenth century Dutch theologian Jacobus Arminius that so emphasizes the free will of man in all things that it denies the biblical teaching of the sovereignty of God in all things

### 3. Traditionalism

The view of salvation that has been held traditionally within the Southern Baptist Convention.

*Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer.*

*Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is the glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility.* – Baptist Faith and Message, 2000

**Deceased Calvinists**

John Bunyon  
Jonathan Edwards  
D. James Kennedy  
John Knox  
Martin Lloyd-Jones  
John Newton  
Arthur Pink  
R. C. Sproul  
Charles Spurgeon  
Isaac Watts  
George Whitefield

**Deceased Non-Calvinists**

Bill Bright  
Chuck Colson  
W. A. Criswell  
Charles Finney  
Billy Graham  
Hershall Hobbs  
C. S. Lewis  
D. L. Moody  
Adrian Rogers  
A. W. Tozer  
John Wesley

**Current Calvinists**

Danny Akin  
Vodie Baucham  
Mark Dever  
Louie Giglio  
J. D. Greear  
Tim Keller  
Erwin Lutzer  
John MacArthur  
Al Mohler  
J. I. Packer  
John Piper

**Current Non-Calvinists**

Henry Blackaby  
Jimmy Draper  
Steve Gaines  
Norman Geisler  
David Jeremiah  
Chuck Kelly  
Paige Patterson  
Charles Stanley  
Sammy Tippett  
Jerry Vines  
Ravi Zecharias