



Irresistible Grace – Saving grace extended by God to the elect cannot be resisted by them.

To most, God makes an offer they cannot receive.

To some, God makes an offer they cannot reject.

A Review of God's offer of salvation and man's response:

Unconditional Election

Total Depravity

Man is spiritually dead in such a way that he cannot respond to God's offer of salvation. Therefore, the Holy Spirit must regenerate him, causing him to be born again, before a man can ever respond to the gospel. The Holy Spirit only regenerates the elect.

The Holy Spirit will never regenerate a person who is not elect. Therefore, one who is not elect cannot receive Christ. The Holy Spirit will always regenerate those who are elect. Therefore, those who are born again (without faith) must receive the gospel. **Irresistible Grace**.

But what about man's free will?

For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." Romans 10:13

And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely. Revelation 22:17

Man has no free will. Compatibility, the Calvinist understanding of free will, is not free will (libertarian free will).

Limited Atonement

To further seal the eternal doom of the non-elect, Jesus Christ did not even die for them.

God's Two Calls:

The doctrine of irresistible grace is based upon the idea that God has two calls.

The outward general call and the special inward call, also referred to as "efficacious" or "invincible" or "irresistible" call.

The gospel invitation extends a call to salvation to everyone who hears its message...

But this **outward general call, extended to the elect and the non-elect alike**, will not bring sinners to Christ... Therefore, the *Holy Spirit*, in order to bring God's elect to salvation, **extends to them a special inward call in addition to the outward call contained in the gospel message**. Through this special call the Holy Spirit performs a work of grace within the sinner which inevitably brings him to faith in Christ...



Although the general outward call of the gospel can be, and often is, rejected, the special inward call of the Spirit never fails to result in the conversion of those to whom it is made. This special call is not made to all sinners but is issued to the elect only!

D.N. Steele, C. C. Thomas, and S. L. Quinn,

The Five Points of Calvinism: Defined, Defended, Documented, 52-54

If God's call to the elect is irresistible and God's call to the non-elect is unreceivable, why does God...

1. Invite all to believe?

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!"²⁸ See! Your house is left to you desolate; Matthew 23:37-38

"I willed but you were not willing."

Matthew 19:16-24

Mark 12:28-34

2. Persuade all to believe?

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

"Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences. II Corinthians 5:11

Acts "persuade", "convince" "exhort"

3. Warn all against unbelief?

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²²Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' ²³And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' Matthew 7:21-23

"Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men.³² Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come. Matthew 12:31-32