

**The Truth**

**The Whole Truth**

**And nothing but the Truth**

**In Context**

**In Love**

# **TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP**

# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

## Who was John Calvin?

John Calvin (1509–1564) was a French theologian who was instrumental in the protestant reformation (a religious protest against the Roman Catholic church) and who continues to hold wide influence today in theology, education, and even politics.

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*(a state of eternal punishment and damnation into which a sinful and unpenitent person passes after death.)*



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## Who was John Calvin?

American historian John Fiske wrote, “It would be hard to overrate the debt which **SATAN** owes to Calvin. The promulgation of this theology was one of the longest steps that mankind has ever taken toward **DAMNATION.**”

# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

The five points of Calvinism can be summarized by the acronym **TULIP**.

**T** stands for total depravity,  
**U** for unconditional election,  
**L** for limited atonement,  
**I** for irresistible grace, and  
**P** for perseverance of the saints.

Here are the definitions and Scripture references Calvinists use to defend their beliefs:

# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

**Total Depravity** - As a result of Adam's fall, the entire human race is affected; all humanity is dead in trespasses and sins. Man is unable to save himself.

([Genesis 6:5](#); [Jeremiah 17:9](#); [Romans 3:10-18](#))

# **TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP**

**What does the Bible say about  
the doctrine of  
Total Depravity?**

# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

## **Total Depravity?**

Deuteronomy 30:19 “I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose...”

*How could they choose if they were morally unable to make any choice except to do evil?*

# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

## **Total Depravity?**

Ezekiel 18:20 “The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son; the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him and wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.”

*How can we say that newborn babies have engaged in sin?*



# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

**Unconditional Election** - Because man is dead in sin, he is unable to initiate a response to God; therefore, in eternity past, God elected certain people to salvation. Election and predestination are unconditional; they are not based on man's response because man is unable to respond, nor does he want to.

(Romans 8:29-30; 9:11; Ephesians 1:46, 11-12)

# **TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP**

**What does the Bible say about  
the doctrine of  
Unconditional Election?**

# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

## Unconditional Election?

2 Peter 3:9 “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”

*Why would Peter say this if it was not possible for all to have an opportunity to avoid perishing?*

*How could totally depraved people repent?*

# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

## Unconditional Election?

Ezekiel 18:23 “Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord God: and not that he should return from his ways, and live?”

*Why would God say that He takes no pleasure in the death of anyone if that person could do nothing about it?*

*Why would God say that he should return from his ways and live if that were not possible?*

# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

**Limited Atonement** - Because God determined that certain ones should be saved as a result of God's unconditional election, He determined that Christ should die for the elect alone. All whom God has elected and for whom Christ died will be saved.

([Matthew 1:21](#); [John 10:11](#); [17:9](#); [Acts 20:28](#); [Romans 8:32](#); [Ephesians 5:25](#)).

# **TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP**

**What does the Bible say about  
the doctrine of  
Limited Atonement?**

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## Limited Atonement?

**I John 2:2 “And He is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”**

*Why would John say this if Jesus only died for part of the world and not everyone?*

# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

**Irresistible Grace** - Those whom God elected He draws to Himself through irresistible grace. God makes man willing to come to Him. When God calls, man responds ([John 6:37](#), [44](#); [10:16](#)).



# **TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP**

**What does the Bible say about  
the doctrine of  
Irresistible Grace?**

# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

## **Irresistible Grace?**

Acts 7:51 "You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit"

*The Holy Spirit is God! How could people resist God if He wanted to save them?*

# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

## **Irresistible Grace?**

Matthew 11:28-30 “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.  
<sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

*Jesus, through His grace, made this invitation to the whole world, yet most people resist His offer.*

# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

**Perseverance of the Saints** - The precise ones God has elected and drawn to Himself through the Holy Spirit will persevere in faith. None whom God has elected will be lost; they are eternally secure ([John 10:27-29](#); [Romans 8:29-30](#); [Ephesians 1:3-14](#)).

# **TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP**

**What does the Bible say about  
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## **Perseverance of the Saints?**

I Corinthians 9:27 “But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.”

*The apostle Paul knew he could fall away, and struggled to keep that from happening.*

# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

## **Perseverance of the Saints?**

Galatians 5:4 “You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.”

*Why would Paul say some had fallen from grace if that was an impossibility?*

# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

How much sense does it make?



# TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIP

If you seek it, you can't find it...

If you find it, you can't get it...

If you get it, you can't lose it...

If you lose it, you never had it!

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