

SummerSalon14 - Soteriology

We've now come to my favorite part of systematic theology. Perhaps this reflects my gift and calling, but I seem to have an abundance of material on salvation. If a believer never gained any more knowledge about their faith than the fourteen doctrines of salvation, they need to clearly understand: (1) depravity, the *reason* we need salvation (2) grace, *why* God is able to provide salvation (3) regeneration, redemption, reconciliation, justification, and predestination —the *mechanisms* of our salvation (4) imputation, substitution, and propitiation —*how* the Godhead operates to *effect* our salvation (5) security —the *assurance* of our salvation (6) sanctification —the *outworking* of our salvation and (7) resurrection —the glorious *outcome* of our salvation. *These crucial doctrines get mixed up and out of order among the false doctrines taught about salvation.*

There are many documents posted in the Soteriology section of the Forum.

First, note the chart that compares the elements of law and grace as methods of salvation. Who in their right mind would want to seek salvation under the requirements of the law? Next, read a summary of W. R. Newell's teaching on grace. It is a classic that has stood for over sixty years. Read a teaching on James' comparison of faith and works. Read an analysis of twenty quotes by Joseph Prince on grace. Find out if you're under law's curse with "Can't keep law.pdf". Read an interesting analogy by an Oklahoma rancher about the transition from law to grace in "Feldick on law." Read about Charles Ryrie's classic work, ***So Great Salvation*** compared to Lordship Salvation —along with Charles Bing's dissertation on Lordship Salvation. "Mute Button" explores the errors of double predestination. Calvinist R. C. Sproul's lack of understanding of *assurance* of salvation is discussed along with an analysis of his own classic work on double

predestination that is widely available online. Norman Geisler's PowerPoint explanation about why he's not a five point Calvinist is posted in several YouTube presentations. Read David Bennett's teaching on predestination and assurance of salvation. Read M.J. Greene's polemic on Applied Calvinism. Clarence Larkin from a hundred years ago is known for his fascinating book of charts. Whether or not every chart is completely theologically correct, this one on atonement is quite instructive. A polemic on Reform vs. biblical election is based on Dave Hunt's book, ***What Love is This?*** And there's the incessant urge by those who want to prove *everybody* goes to heaven. This is discussed in an article on Inclusivism. Finally, the classic work by Martin Luther, the ***Bondage of the Will*** is posted without comment. Bible students must, in the end, come to their own reasoned conclusions about what they believe about God's sovereignty and man's will. I would only offer that the best rebuttal I find in reference to Luther's work is that of Dr. Dwight Pentecost, ***Things Which Become Sound Doctrine***.

We've come to a part the **SummerSalon14** that presents a refutation of an element of Calvinist teaching. Dr. Steve Lemke, Provost of NOBTS co-edits with David Allen, ***Whosoever Will: A Biblical-Theological Critique of Five-Point Calvinism***. See the hyperlink for the book posted on Forum documents.