



Welcome To The Killeen Church of Christ!

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."-Ecclesiastes 12:13



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*Cherokee Home
For Children
Cherokee, TX*

*Christian Homes &
Family Services
Abilene, TX*

*Foster's Home
For Children
Stephenville, TX*

*Sunny Glen
Children's Home
San Benito, TX*

SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS - 9:30 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:30 AM

WEDNESDAY - 7:00 PM

The Fallacy of Altering Biblical Predestination

By Phil McIntosh



There are sundry and diverse doctrines swirling about our world today. Make no mistake, we are no more guilty as it relates to farcical ideas or fantastical imaginations of false deities, mysticism, or philosophical flotsam that pervade the mind of the often curious and rarely satisfied than were our predecessors. Mysticism and false conclusions regarding deity and power have been circumnavigating our planet for thousands of years. One thing is clear: the history of the civilization of our world and their various conjectures have proven that mankind realizes he holds but a small position in the grandeur that is our world, our planet, and our universe. Our history proves that we, by and large, observe and acknowledge some kind of fantastic power that is above what can be comprehended by the human mind alone. One only has to look at the beauty around us and the canvas on which our landscape has been painted to be overwhelmed with a sense of appreciation and experience humility in the presence of such majesty (*Psa.19:1; 139:14*).

Of the myriad of false religious conclusions and teachings that exist, some are less harmless to the fabric of the world- not because they are not wrong and dangerous for the souls who adhere to them, but because they are not commonly held, mainstream teachings that have permeated the majority religious opinions of our world. Others, though, are so pervasive they have for millennia opposed the doctrine that our Lord and God delivered and have sought to destroy the very bedrock on which Christianity was founded. Sadly enough, these doctrines frequently emanate *from* so-called "Christianity." One of the ways in which the devil has been (and will be until the Lord returns) successful is to take a spoonful of truth and mix it with the poison of a lie (*Jn. 8:44; Rev. 12:9*). The apostle Paul told the Ephesian elders that some would rise up from Christianity to pervert Christianity (*Acts 20:30*). Likewise, the young evangelist Timothy was warned that people would leave the truth and wrap themselves in fables because it suited their "ears" better (*2 Tim. 4:3-4*). Christians much always be on the watch for a perversion of the one and only gospel delivered by the Lord and the Spirit of God (*Gal. 1:6-9*).

There is a litany of doctrines that have been taught as truth that fall under the umbrella of what is termed *Calvinism*. They are so called for the French theologian who lived in the 16th century. John Calvin underwent an evolution in his religious views, from Roman Catholicism to Protestantism; additionally, he became synonymous with the Protestant Reformation. While it could be argued that it is admirable that one distance themselves from the unbiblical model and teachings of the Catholic Church, Calvin did not retreat to authentic New Testament Christianity. He, instead, created a false amalgam of theologies from the Bible and from man-made religion. To briefly explain his doctrine, it has been traditionally encapsulated by the "five pillars" of Calvinism, which are notated by what is referred to as the TULIP acrostic (a word or phrase in which the letters each form a word). The letters stand for **T** (total depravity), **U** (unconditional election), **L** (limited atonement), **I** (irresistible grace), and **P** (perseverance of the saints). We have neither the time nor space in one article to comment on the whole of Calvinism; rather let me state briefly that these are not biblical teachings; rather they are dangerous and misleading. They also are codependent teachings (built upon one another and cannot stand without the others). Take the first domino out, and the whole house comes down.

The focus for this article is the idea of *predestination* (which fits in the U category of *unconditional election*). Don't miss this: the Bible talks of *predestination*. Such biblical texts as **Romans 8:29-30** and **Ephesians 1:5,11** teach the reality of God's predestining. The Bible makes it clear that predestination *is real*. However, the form of predestination taught by some in the Protestant world is a twisting of the Biblical text to teach a foundation of God's relationship with mankind that is heretical. The form that is taught, and which undergirds portions of the Protestant Christian world, is that God *predestined* (pre-destinated, destined before, choose ahead of time) those who would be saved and those who would be lost. While outlandish at the outset, those who disagree might be told we have no right to question God's decisions and the establishment of His design. While I agree we should not question God, we also have no right to twist what God told us His plan was. This is not the forum for a complete treatise on the biblical teaching of predestination. Let me here just state that a few verses and some logic will equip us well to challenge this inaccurate Protestant doctrine. The Protestant Calvinist might say that God has chosen who will be saved and who will be lost and that those who respond to God's call are clearly His predestined people. However, the Protestant Calvinist also believes in *irresistible grace* which effectively says that the power of God's Spirit cannot be resisted or refused. So then, it's not as simple as "those who believe are God's chosen." If God's grace could not be resisted, and the Spirit of God were to change the hearts of those who were His predestined, and only a certain number of people were a part of that predestined, then what, pray tell, are we to make of Peter's conclusion that God shows no partiality (**Acts 10:34**)? What is one to make of Jesus' teaching that anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved (**Mk. 16:16**)? What do we do with the most well-known verse in all Holy Writ that God loved the world *so much* that He sent His Son and that *whoever* believes should not die but have everlasting life (**Jn. 3:16**)? If only some were even *capable* of being saved, then why did Paul preach that God wanted "all men everywhere" to turn from their sinful past to Him (**Acts 17:30**)? While there are many other verses we could discuss, let my final suggestion of Bible and logic culminate in Paul's writing to Timothy:

"For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." -1 Timothy 2:3-4

How could God want *all* men to be saved if, according to Protestant Calvinism, God had already chosen that only *some* could be saved, and others were lost to Hell without a whisper of choice in the matter? It is an unbiblical and dangerous doctrine; and more so because it has permeated to the very fabric of religion in America, resulting in many who believe it, often without even realizing they do.

Predestination *is real* and Biblical. However, it should be understood that God has predestined a family, a church, a people, and a nation in Christ. He has not predestined an individual to be lost or saved without choice in the matter. In fact, one reason God calls you is because you have a choice! You have to make that decision to love His Son and obey His gospel (**Acts 2:38**). God has undoubtedly predestined Christians, but *anybody* whose heart is moved to obedience by the gospel can be a Christian. Just as Joshua said to the Israelites and Elijah called to Israel- *choose* to serve God, because He has allowed us to determine our eternal destination (**Jms. 4:7-8; 2 Thess. 1:8-9**). We choose Him.



Holiday Helpers

Share in our affection for others this holiday season. We are collecting money with the goal of paying forward God's blessings to a few chosen families who we would like to assist. Please join with us in this goal if you have the ability. The deadline to have money is November 30th.

If you have any questions, see Phil or Michelle McIntosh.

Youth Devo
 Hosted by
 Beverly Williams



Join us for fellowship & fun at our Youth Devotional on Sunday, November 13th, at 5:00 pm, at the home of Beverly Williams. More details & a sign up sheet are in the foyer. Our guest speaker will be Jonathan Moseley, from the Gabriel Oaks church of Christ, in Georgetown.

November Nursery Schedule

- Oct. 30-Natalie & Amanda
- 6-Beverly & Josephine
- 13- Victoria & Brenda
- 20-Gayle & Amanda
- 27-Nichole & Victoria

*We are in need of more ladies to help in the nursery. If you would like to be on the nursery list, please contact the office. Thank you!

November Cleaning Calendar

- May be done any time before the next Sunday.
- Please consult with your team leader for further questions.

Oct. 30-TEAM ROGER Patrick Brenda Linda	13-TEAM PHIL Michelle Beverly Josephine Yvonne Lois Marcella	27-TEAM ZACK Amanda Diedre Paul Ruby
6-TEAM JAMES Kim-Marie Xavier Jaden Kingsford Barbara	20-TEAM LEE Natalie Derek Ken Tim	



- 9-AMANDA PETTIES
- 10-NICHOLE WILLIAMS
- 22-SHIRL FOSTER
- 22-JESSICA ROGERS
- 25-JUDY WALL
- 29-XAVIER SEAY
- 30-GREG CULP

ORDER OF SERVICE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2022:

- ANNOUNCEMENTS: GAYLEN WILLIAMS
- 1ST PRAYER: ZACK PETTIES
- SONG: REGGIE BASS
- SCRIPTURE READING: KINGSFORD ASARE
- SONG: REGGIE BASS
- SERMON: PHIL MCINTOSH
- INVITATION SONG: REGGIE BASS
- SONG BEFORE COMMUNION: REGGIE BASS
- COMMUNION:
IVAN MCINTOSH & GIANNI GRIFFITH
- SONG: REGGIE BASS
- OFFERING:
IVAN MCINTOSH & GIANNI GRIFFITH
- CLOSING SONG: REGGIE BASS
- CLOSING PRAYER: KEITH RUMMEL
- AUDIO/VISUAL: PATRICK SELLERS
- SECURITY: BRUCE BROWN & ROGER DEEM
- NURSERY:
BEVERLY WILLIAMS & JOSEPHINE SPEAR

SCRIPTURE READING

“Practicing Practical Christianity”
Micah 6:6-8

*“6 Wherewith shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old?
 7 Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?
 8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?”*

