

**Discipleship:
An
Introduction to
Systematic Theology and
Apologetics**

Protestant Reformation Doctrines of Salvation

The Heights Church October 28, 2018

The Fall – Augustine of Hippo’s Definition of Original (inherited) Sin

	Humanity as created	Fallen Humanity	Modern Definition/ <i>Latin term</i>
Free Agency (<i>Liberty*</i>)	yes	yes	Ability to choose whatever is most pleasing.
Free Will (<i>Moral Liberty*</i>)	yes	no	Ability to chose any available moral option.
Able to sin	yes	yes	<i>Posse peccare</i>
Able to not sin	yes	no	<i>Posse non peccare</i>
Unable to not sin	no	yes	<i>Non posse non peccare</i>

* Augustine’s original words

Reformed vs Arminian Soteriology – the essential differences

Five Points	Calvinists	Arminians
Total Depravity	Free Will was lost in the Fall.	Every natural born person was corrupted by the Fall but Free Will was not lost in the Fall.
Unconditional Election	God elects a remnant of people based on his love/grace/mercy and not based on the merits of each individual elect person.	God elects those he omnisciently foresaw would come to faith by their own Free Will.
Limited Atonement	Christ's atonement was only for the elect.	Christ atonement was for every person.
Irresistible Grace	The Holy Spirit changes the heart of the elect so that it is impossible for them to not believe in Christ.	The Holy Spirit tries to woo every person to believe in Christ but leaves the final choice up to each person's Free Will.
Perseverance of the Saints	The elect cannot lose their salvation.	A true believer can lose their salvation because of Free Will.

Reformed vs Arminian Soteriology – the essential differences

Five Solas	Calvinists	Arminians
Scripture Alone	The Scriptures are our ultimate and trustworthy authority for faith and practice.	The Scriptures are our ultimate and trustworthy authority for faith and practice.
Faith Alone	We are saved through faith alone in Jesus Christ.	We are saved through faith alone in Jesus Christ.
In Christ Alone	Jesus Christ alone is our Lord, Savior, and King.	Jesus Christ alone is our Lord, Savior, and King.
By Grace Alone	We are saved by the grace of God alone. The Holy Spirit changes the heart of the elect so that it is impossible for them to not believe in Christ.	The Holy Spirit tries to woo every person to believe in Christ but leaves the final choice up to each person's Free Will.
For the Glory of God Alone	We live for the glory of God alone. God alone gets all the glory for our salvation.	We live for the glory of God alone. Because of Free Will God gets most but not all the glory for our salvation.

Reformed vs Arminian Soteriology - Total Depravity (review)

- Total Depravity does not mean an unbeliever is as bad as is possible but rather that all human attributes (body, mind, will and soul) are profoundly affected by the Fall.
- If Augustine was correct that in the Fall every naturally born person lost “Free Will” and is morally unable to believe in Christ, then the only way for anyone to believe in Christ is for God alone to bring them to faith. **Since Arminians reject Total Depravity, this is the root cause of the Arminian/Calvinist divide.**

The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. (Genesis 6:5)