1 – “If…” Addressing Calvinism – TULIP –

**Irresistible Grace**

2 - **False Doctrines Often Focus On Lack Of Choice & Accountability**

* Calvinism has five principal tenets:

1. **Total Hereditary Depravity.**
2. **Unconditional Election.**
3. **Limited Atonement.**
4. **Irresistible Grace.**
5. **Perseverance of the Saints.**

3 - **Why Is Total Hereditary Depravity Erroneous? Because…**

* **The Bible teaches otherwise!** (Ezekiel 18:20; Romans 5:12)
* **Children are innocent.** (Deuteronomy 1:39; Matthew 18:3)
* **It’s contrary to the biblical definition of sin.** (1 John 3:4)
* **It’s contrary to the justice of God.** (Hebrews 12:9;   
  James 1:17; Job 34:10-12; 2 Timothy 4:8; Hebrews 6:10)
* **It’s opposed to the idea of reconciliation.** (Romans 5:10-11; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21)
* **It renders the death of Christ as void**. (Heb. 2:16-18; 1 Pet. 1:19)

4 - **Why Is Unconditional Election Erroneous?**

* **What God predestined was salvation in Christ through the church.** (Ephesians 1:3-5; 3:8-12; Romans 8:29)
* **God desires all to be saved.** (1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9; Titus 2:11)
* **God is impartial.** (Acts 10:34-35; Rom. 2:11-13; 1 Pet. 1:17)
* **All are invited!** (Acts 2:22; Rev. 22:17; Matthew 11:28-30)
* **All are accountable**! (2 Corinthians 5:10)
* **“If”** (Rev. 3:20; 2 Cor. 5:17; 2 Tim. 2:12; 1 Pet. 1:13; 2 Pet. 1:8; 1 John 1:7-9)

5 - **Why Is Limited Atonement Erroneous? Because…**

* **God’s love is for all!** (John 3:16; Romans 5:8-9)
* **The saving blood of Christ & reconciliation is available to all through the gospel!** (John 1:29; 2 Corinthians 5:14-21; 1 John 2:1-2; 4:14)
* **God desires all to be saved** through a **knowledge of the truth**. (1 Timothy 2:3-4)
* **God commanded all to hear the gospel**.   
  (Mark 16:15-16)

6 - **Irresistible Grace**

* If God created all men inherently evil and then individually determined beforehand who would be saved, then it follows that (only) those determined to be saved **CANNOT resist His grace** that He chose to give them.
* The chosen are **redeemed and saved whether they want to be or not**!

7 - **Understanding & Appreciating God’s Grace**

* **We are lost without it.** (Ephesians 2:8; Acts 15:11; John 3:16)
* **We must “continue” and grow in it.**(Acts 13:43; 20:32; 2 Corinthians 6:1)
* **We must work to propagate it.** (Acts 14:26; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 8:4; 11:23)
* **Grace appeared teaching**… (Titus 2:11-14)

8 - **Understanding & Appreciating God’s Grace**

* **Our duty to not “come short of the grace”. (Hebrews 12:15)**
* **Requires our active, obedient faith.**(Romans 1:5; 2:4-8; 5:1-2; 6:16-17;James 2:14ff)
* **Example**: **John 9** and the man born blind.

9 - **Why Is Irresistible Grace Erroneous? Because…**

* **We can *“resist”* the Holy Spirit and the grace of God.** (Acts 7:51)
* We can ***“kick against the goads”***. (Acts 26;14)
* **God’s grace must be taught** (Acts 11:19-23; 14:26; 20:24, 32; Ephesians 3:2-11; Titus 2:11-14)
* **Eliminates ALL human choice**. (Joshua 24:15; Deuteronomy 30:19; Psalms 25:12)
* **It was God’s choice HOW to save us** (Acts 15:7), **it’s our choice** whether to accept His grace.

10 - **Why Would You Resist Any Longer?**

* ***“Why do you delay?”*** (Acts 22:16)
* The invitation one day will cease to be offered… (Matthew 25:10-11; Luke 13:25)
* Stop resisting and ***“yield to the Lord”***   
  (2 Chronicles 30:8; cf., Matthew 11:28-30)
* “Let Him Have His Way With Thee”