Unraveling the TULIP, Part 1

Greg Kline · Psalm 51

INTRODUCTION

- In John chapter 4 and verse 24, we learn that God is spirit, and he is to be worshipped in spirit and truth.
- This is a system of beliefs, and I truly want to emphasize the word system of beliefs that can be identified through the acronym TULIP.
- And let's focus rather on what God says rather than what man has postulated.

1 Calvinism Is a System Beginning With Sovereignty

- The question is not, is God sovereign? The question is, what does it mean that God is sovereign?
- They postulate on the extreme end that if God is truly sovereign, then there is no free will.
- We cannot find God even if we wanted to, and we would not want to even if we could.
- Limited atonement, quickly stated, is the idea that Jesus did not die for the sins of the whole world.
- Keep in mind that if any one of these links on the chain breaks, the entire system is broken.

2 Total Depravity

Psalm 51:5; Romans 5:12–14; Ezekiel 18:19–20

- It is figurative language. This is obviously not meant to be taken literally.
- Death spread to all men, but why? The end of verse 12? Because all sinned. It was not because of Adam, it was because all sinned.
- The Son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the Father, nor the Father suffer for the iniquity of the Son.
- Verse 20 is the rule who will die and why? The soul who sins shall die.
- Are little children born innocent until they sin, until they violate God's will? Or are they born with Adam's sin?
- We absolutely are not born in sin. We do not inherit sin. And if we did, we would be just as likely to inherit the righteousness that Christ bring.

3 Unconditional Election

Acts 13:44–48; Acts 4:27–28

- Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles.
- How was it that they were judged unworthy? By themselves. Who made them reject the will of God? They did.
- Now, what part of the story of Jesus do Pontius Pilate and Herod have in common with? The crucifixion of Jesus.
- Was this not God's plan from the beginning that Jesus would come and die on the cross for the sins? for the whole world? Absolutely it was.

4 Two Problems With Unconditional Election

Exodus 12:12–13; 1 Timothy 2:4; Acts 10:34–35

- The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you.
- Those who are faithful to our faithful God on the terms that he has outlined for us, those are who God will save.
- How do we contact the blood of Jesus? Unconditionally? No. By doing what he has said.
- Who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
- Truly I understand that God shows no partiality. But in every nation, anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **And if we do love our God that much, and Jesus did not die in a limited fashion, but for the sins of the whole world, will you choose to follow him this morning?**

MY NOTES