

AMAZING GRACE:

The Practical Benefits of Reformed Theology

THE DOCTRINES OF GRACE

1. God's grace in election (Unconditional election)
 2. Radical corruption (Total depravity)
 3. Accomplishing grace (Irresistible grace)
 4. Complete atonement (Limited atonement)
 5. Enduring Preservation (Perseverance of the saints)
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KEY BENEFITS

1. **Assurance of Salvation:** Our hope rests in God's faithfulness.
 - a. Arminianism: Our will provides our ultimate eternal destination
 - i. Hospital example
 - ii. We provide the needed faith and repentance for salvation
 - iii. If my will is the determining factor in salvation, it is also what preserves my salvation
 - iv. What about when I fall into sin or get dementia?
 - v. Assurance is tied to feelings and your own performance
 - b. Golden Chain of Salvation
 - i. **Romans 8:30** *"And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified."*
 - c. Covenant of Redemption
 - i. *"The eternal agreement between the Father and the Son (and implicitly the Holy Spirit), in which the Son undertook to accomplish the work of redemption for the elect, and the Father promised to give the Son a people and all that was necessary for their salvation."* Systematic Theology – **Louis Berkhof**
 - d. Order of Salvation: Regeneration (born again) occurs before faith

i. Spiritually Dead

1. **Ephesians 2:1** *“And you were dead in the trespasses and sins”*

ii. Faith is a Gift

1. **Ephesians: 2:8** *“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,”*

iii. Rebirth: *“What did you do in order to become the child of your parents? Nothing. You were born into their family. In like manner, it is not by any act of ours that we become the children of God, but by a supernatural birth.” A.W. Pink*

e. Grace: Reformed theology provides the true, full meaning of grace

f. Am I Chosen? Addressing the fear of not being elect.

2. **Humility and Worship:** Provides the foundation for our humility and God centered worship

a. Humility:

i. **1 Corinthians 1: 30-31** *“And because of him[e] you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, 31 so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”*

b. Worship

i. God Centered / Christ Exalting

ii. **Romans 11:33** *“For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.”*

iii. **Ephesians 1:11-12** *“In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, 12 so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the **praise of his glory.**”*

3. **Confidence in Evangelism/Missions:** God is responsible to gather his elect through the proclamation of the gospel.

a. Proclamation of the gospel is part of God’s plan

i. **Romans 10:14-15** *“How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? 15 And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”*

b. It is the work of God to bring the elect to Himself

- ii. **Acts 18:9-10** *“And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, “Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, 10 for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people.”*
- iii. **Acts 13:48-48** *“And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed.”*
- c. How does this give us confidence in evangelism?
- d. Why does God use us in his plan of redemption and not just save the elect?
- e. How modern missions was affected by Reformed Theology
 - iv. **John 10:16** *“I have other sheep that are not of this fold”*
 - v. William Carey (1761–1834) – India – Father of modern missions
 - vi. Adoniram Judson (1788–1850) – Burma
 - vii. Jim Elliott – (1928 – 1956) - Ecuador

4. Gateway to humble acceptance of God’s Providence and Absolute Sovereignty

- a. Absolute Sovereignty: Provides an understanding of God’s rule in the world
 - i. Evil is used by God (without being the author/creator of evil) to accomplish his purposes
 - ii. “Random” Occurrences / Natural disasters
 - 1. Tower of Siloam: Luke 13:1-5
 - 2. **Proverbs 16:33** *“The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord.”*
 - iii. *“There is not one maverick molecule in the universe.” R.C. Sproul*
 - viii. *“God from all eternity did, by the most wise and holy counsel of his own will, freely and unchangeably ordain whatsoever comes to pass;” Westminster Confession of Faith*
- b. Strength in Suffering/God’s Providence in our lives
 - i. Preordained purpose in suffering
 - ii. Reduced Anxiety
 - iii. Confidence in knowing and doing God’s will
 - iv. God’s all-encompassing Providence
- c. Worldview: Provides a logical framework to understanding theology, the Bible and the world
- d. Gospel: Redefines the Gospel from man centered to God centered

Testimonies

- *“Reformed theology has been for me a pathway into the deepest and highest and most satisfying vision of God that I have ever known.” - **John Piper***
- *“In Calvinism my heart has found rest.” - **Abraham Kuyper***

Key Scriptures

- Romans 11:33–36
- 2 Corinthians 4:5–7
- 2 Timothy 2:10
- Deuteronomy 29:29

Final Emphasis

A biblical understanding of God’s sovereignty and human responsibility leads believers to:

- deeper worship
- greater humility
- stronger assurance
- bold evangelism
- confident trust in God’s good and sovereign purposes

Where are you along this path in seeing and savoring the Doctrines of Grace?