

Arminius' Theology

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INTRODUCTION:

He was given the task of refuting the teachings of Dirck Volckertszoon Coornhert who rejected the supralapsarian doctrine of Beza, rather endorsing infralapsarianism. After studying Scripture, he become conflicted and prompted him to deeper study

I. WHAT IS SUPRALAPSARIANISM

A. LAPSARIANISM

1. This is the study of the logical order of God's decrees

a. Comes from the Latin lapsus, meaning to fall

b. Concerns God's decree to ordain the fall of man in relation to his decree to save through election or condemn through reprobation.

2. There were several opposing views which all have names with lapsarian in them.

a. Supralapsarianism states God's decrees of election and reprobation logically preceded the decree of the fall

b. Infralapsarianism states God's decrees of election and reprobation logically succeeded the decree of the fall

c. Those supporting infralapsarianism believed supralapsarianism made God the author of sin.

Lapsarian views on order of decrees of God

	Supralapsarianism Antelapsarianism Pre-lapsarian or prelapsarian	Infralapsarianism Sublapsarianism Postlapsarianism
Decree to:	Save some and condemn others	
Decree to:	Create the elect and the reprobate	Create human beings
Decree to:	Authorize the Fall (by which all deserve to be condemned)	
Decree to:		Save some from condemnation and leave others condemned
Decree to:	Provide salvation only for the elect	

II. WHERE ARMINIUS DIFFERED FROM CALVIN

A. HE CONSIDERED HIS TEACHINGS TO BE IN HORMANY WITH THOSE OF CALVIN

B. HIS STUDY OF ROMANS PARTICULARLY CHAPTERS 7 – 9 LED HIM TO EMPHIZE THE ROLE OF THE HUMAN FREE WILL

1. He believed humans were basically depraved
2. That depraved humans are dependent on God's grace for salvation

C. HOW HE DIFFERED FROM CALVIN

1. Grace can be both freely accepted as well as freely denied, that grace does not act in a purely determinist method
2. Free will is limited by God's sovereignty but he chooses to cede a portion of his power to humans
3. He defined election as "the decree of God by which, of Himself, from eternity, He decreed to justify in Christ believers, and to accept them unto eternal life", yet those who are elect are free to resist and thus frustrate God's will to save them

D. FOLLOWING HIS DEATH THE REMONSTRANTS DEVELOPED THE FIVE ARTICLES OF REMONSTRANCE

1. These went further than Arminius in differing from Calvin
2. The Five Point of Calvin were developed in response to these

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Logical_order_of_God%27s_decrees#Overview

https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Jacobus_Arminius

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Jacobus-Arminius.html>

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