



1

Answering Objections

- “If God elects some and not others, then he does not truly desire all people to be saved. But God does truly desire all people to be saved. Therefore, God does not elect some and not others.”
- “If God has pre-determined every single detail, then he is the author of evil. God is not the author of evil. Therefore, he has not pre-determined everything.”
- “If God has pre-determined everything, then people, like X-box controlled robots or puppets, cannot meet the basic requirements for agency and moral responsibility. But people do meet the basic requirements for agency and being held responsible. Therefore, God has not pre-determined everything.”

2

Perseverance of the Saints

Perseverance | 17.1

- Those whom God has accepted in the beloved, effectually called and sanctified by his Spirit, and given the precious faith of his elect unto, can neither totally nor finally fall from the state of grace, but shall certainly persevere therein to the end, and be eternally saved, seeing the gifts and callings of God are without repentance, from which source he still begets and nourishes in them faith, repentance, love, joy, hope, and all the graces of the Spirit unto immortality; and though many storms and floods arise and beat against them, yet they shall never be able to take them off that foundation and rock which by faith they are fastened upon; notwithstanding, through unbelief and the temptations of Satan, the sensible sight of the light and love of God may for a time be clouded and obscured from them, yet he is still the same, and they shall be sure to be kept by the power of God unto salvation, where they shall enjoy their purchased possession, they being engraved upon the palm of his hands, and their names having been written in the book of life from all eternity.

3

Perseverance of the Saints

Perseverance | 17.2

- This perseverance of the saints depends not upon their own free will, but upon the immutability of the decree of election, flowing from the free and unchangeable love of God the Father, upon the efficacy of the merit and intercession of Jesus Christ and union with him, the oath of God, the abiding of his Spirit, and the seed of God within them, and the nature of the covenant of grace; from all which ariseth also the certainty and infallibility thereof.
- Perseverance | 17.1 and 17.2 - Claim and Basis (Jer. 32:40; Jn 6:44; 10:28-29; Rom. 5:9-10; 8:30 Eph 1:13-14; Phil. 1:6; 1 Pet. 1:3-5; 1 Jn. 2:19; Rom. 4:25)

4

Perseverance of the Saints

Perseverance | 17.3 - Caveats (Ps. 32:3-5; 51:10-12; Prov. 3:11-12; Matt. 26:69-75; Eph. 4:30)

- And though they may, through the temptation of Satan and of the world, the prevalency of corruption remaining in them, and the neglect of means of their preservation, fall into grievous sins, and for a time continue therein, whereby they incur God's displeasure and grieve his Holy Spirit, come to have their graces and comforts impaired, have their hearts hardened, and their consciences wounded, hurt and scandalize others, and bring temporal judgments upon themselves, yet shall they renew their repentance and be preserved through faith in Christ Jesus to the end.