

ETERNAL SECURITY (47)

clearly states that a lost person is given understanding by God (**II Corinthians 4:3-4**). The Bible clearly states that a lost person is granted repentance by God (**Acts 11:18**). The Bible clearly states that a lost person has a heart opened by God (**Acts 16:14**). The Bible clearly states that a lost person is given faith and salvation by God (**John 2:8-9; John 1:12-13; James 1:18**). **Clearly the Bible reveals that the key work in salvation is the work of God, not the work of man.**

God has mercy on whomever He wants and He doesn't have mercy on whomever He wants (**Romans 9:18**). If we leave reason out of the picture and base our views on pure Biblical revelation, we must conclude that salvation is not determined by man but by God, and we have no right to question Him concerning His saving work (**Romans 9:20**).

(Doctrine #3) - The Arminian view of Divine Decrees .

The Doctrine of Divine Decrees asserts that God is carrying out His Sovereign plan which He established in eternity past. **Arminianism refuses to accept God's total sovereignty in saving a soul.** It attempts to avoid or somehow explain away such passages as **Romans 8:30; Ephesians 1:3-14**. It attempts to make God's revelation completely fit in with God's reason .

(Doctrine #4) - The Arminian view of the Fall .

The fall of man is a necessary doctrine for the grace of God. Dr. Chafer says: "Apart from the fall with its complete ruin of the race, there could be no sufficient basis for the doctrine of sovereign grace with its utter disregard for human merit, nor for a defense against the notion that sovereign election represents a respect of personal qualities in man on the part of God" (Vol. 3, p. 279).

Not all Arminians deny the fall, but they do minimize the extent of it. Arminians do not want to admit that man is totally and utterly lost and cannot do anything in and of himself to change his status (**Romans 3:10-12**). Somehow Arminians want to make man capable of saving and keeping himself. This lessens the extent of the fall, thus lessening the extent of God's grace.

An Arminian will discover in himself many backslidings and failures. He will never fully have peace and rest from his sin, because he still relies in some way on his own works rather than the pure grace of God.

(Doctrine #5) - The Arminian view of Omniscience .

Arminians struggle with the omniscience of God. God's omniscience teaches that God's knowledge is unlimited and that He foreknows and even foreordains whatever comes to pass. As Dr. Chafer said: "Merely to foreknow what will be determined by secondary causes, leaves the entire program of events adrift without chart or compass" (Vol. 3, p. 280).