

TULIP: Preservation of God's Elect

From a State of Grace to a State of Glory

*There is so much bad in the best of men
That salvation by grace is the ONLY possibility*

*There is NOT so much bad in the worst of men
That salvation by grace is an impossibility*

*Salvation by grace—And grace alone
Essential for the best of men—Sufficient for the worst of men
The only salvation that intermeshes with Bible truth*

**Elder Jeff Winfrey, Pastor
Dawson Springs Primitive Baptist Church
101 East Walnut Street
Dawson Springs, KY 42408
www.dspbc.com**

I. Total Depravity-Unconditional Election—Limited Atonement—Irresistible Grace

A. Total Depravity: The Bible's View of Sin and Sinners

- 1. All who are born of Adam became sinners by Adam's original sin (Rom 5:12)**
- 2. All who are born of Adam are born sinners by their very nature (Eph 2:3)**
- 3. The Bible declares and proves that all people are sinners by practice (Rom 3:10)**
- 4. Sinners are powerless to recover themselves by their own will and ability**
 - a. An unborn again person has no will to come to God (He has no 'want to') (Joh 5:40)
 - b. An unborn again man has no ability to come to God (He has no 'can do') (Joh 6:44)

B. Unconditional Election: The Foundation of Salvation

- 1. God elected and predestinated His children to eternal life (Eph 1:4-5) (Rom 8:30)**
 - a. God gave His elect people to Christ in the Covenant of Grace before time began

b. God even placed His elect children *'In Christ'*—All of salvation hinges on this

2. God's election is unconditionally His choice—Not based on anything in the chosen
(Eph 1:6) (Rom 9:16) (Rom 9:11) (Eph 2:10) (Joh 15:16) (Psa 65:4) (Act 13:48)

3. Election is as crucial to salvation as crucifixion and 'born-again'

C. Limited Atonement: The Story of the Successful Savior

1. Jesus' atonement is not limited in power—It is limited in scope

2. Jesus never tried to save everybody—Jesus did, does, and shall save His people

3. The accomplishments in Jesus' finished work of atonement

- a. Christ obtained eternal redemption for all He died for (Heb 9:12)
- b. Christ removed all sins from all He died for (Rev 1:5)
- c. Christ made God to be reconciled unto all He died for (2Co 5:18)
- d. Christ made all He died for acceptable to God (Eph 1:6)
- e. Christ took God's punishment in the place of all He died for (Isa 53:6)
- f. Christ accomplished remission for all He died for (Mat 26:28)
- g. Christ brought God's forgiveness to all He died for (Eph 1:7)
- h. Christ made all He died for as righteous as Christ is righteous (2Co 5:21)
- i. Christ made all He died for to be eternally perfect (Heb 10:14)
- j. God justified (legally declared to be innocent) all Christ died for (Rom 5:9)
- k. Christ saved all He died for (2Ti 1:9)

4. With these finished works—What could keep anyone Jesus died for out of heaven?

- a. So, if Jesus died for all people—Then all people must get to heaven
- b. Yet, the Bible is clear that all people will not be in heaven
- c. Jesus died for God's elect people—For His people—For those God had given Him

5. The Bible teaches salvation by God, and God alone—Grace, and grace alone
— **The Bible proclaims the 'SUCCESSFUL SAVIOR'**

D. Irresistible Grace: 'Born-again' Is All of God

1. The three analogies of regeneration show that the sinner is passive in it all

- a. The unborn cannot assist in (or resist) his own birth (Joh 3:8)
- b. The dead cannot assist in (or resist) his being raised from the dead (Joh 5:25)
- c. The yet-to-be created cannot assist in (or resist) becoming a new creation (Eph 2:10)

2. God does born-again for those who will not and cannot come on their own

3. God irresistibly and effectually calls His children to spiritual (even eternal) life

II. But what about 'Whosoever will'?

Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

Rom 9:16 So then *it is* not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

Joh 5:40 And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

Joh 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him...

Psa 65:4 Blessed *is the man whom* thou choosest, and causest to approach *unto thee*...

Mat 11:28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Joh 6:37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me...

III. Preservation of the saints (God's people go from a state of grace to a state of glory)

A. Jesus declared that there would be final preservation in grace

Joh 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.

Joh 10:29 My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of my Father's hand.

B. God's love demands that there will be final preservation in grace

Rom 8:38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life...nor things to come,

Rom 8:39 ...shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus...

C. The Covenant of Grace demands that there will be final preservation in grace

Joh 6:38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

Joh 6:39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

D. God's purpose demands that there will be final preservation in grace

2Ti 1:9 Who hath saved us, and called *us* with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

E. God's immutability demands that there will be final preservation in grace

Mal 3:6 For I *am* the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

F. God's wisdom demands that there will be final preservation in grace

2Sa 14:14 For we must needs die, and *are* as water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again; neither doth God respect *any* person: yet doth he devise means, that his banished be not expelled from him.

G. God's power demands that there will be final preservation in grace

Isa 59:1 Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save...

H. God's justice regarding Jesus' finished work demands final preservation

—Jesus redeemed, washed, made acceptable, made righteous, perfected all He died for

—Jesus took the punishment for, gave remission and forgiveness to all He died for

—Jesus declared: *It is finished*—Salvation was accomplished for all Jesus died for

—God looked upon the suffering of Jesus' soul—And God was satisfied

—When God got satisfied—Each person Jesus died for got justified

—God's justice as a just judge demands that each one Jesus died for get to heaven

I. Regeneration demands that there will be final preservation in grace

Php 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:

1Co 1:8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, *that ye may be* blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1Co 1:9 God *is* faithful, by whom ye were called..

1Th 5:23 ...and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1Th 5:24 Faithful *is* he that calleth you, who also will do *it*.

J. The unbreakable chain demands that there will be final preservation in grace

Rom 8:30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

V. TULIP is God's plan that gets all God's people from all times and places to heaven

A. Christianity is not God's plan to house heaven

1. God saved His people for 4000 years without Christianity—He still does
2. The one plan depicted by TULIP can save the infant—the simple-minded—the Mayan
3. Christianity matters—But God's plan called TULIP can get a Hindu to heaven

B. Christianity is not a new salvation—Christianity is a revelation about salvation

1. God has been saving His people by the same plan (TULIP) since the world began
2. True Christianity reveals to God's people that God saves His people by grace alone
3. The revelation in Christianity should inspire all God's children to become Christians
4. Yet, God can save His children—Even if they never become Christians

C. The plan depicted by TULIP does not need any exceptions so the plan can save

1. '*God-is-fair*' plans make exceptions for '*never-had-a-chance-to-believe*' people
2. Like infants—Mentally challenged—BC—America before 1500—China before 1800
3. All who qualify for the '*never-had-a-chance-to-believe*' exception get to heaven
4. Those who don't qualify for an exception must use the '*believe-the-gospel*' plan

5. If the *God-is-fair* plan gets all to heaven—But the *believe-the-gospel* plan only some
6. Then the gospel is not *good news*—It is the worst thing that could happen to a culture

D. TULIP says that God saves His people—All by Himself—And all by grace

1. In TULIP—Jesus is the successful Savior who saved all God’s elect
2. In TULIP—The Holy Spirit brings unassisted ‘born-again’ to all God’s elect
3. Knowing these truths doesn’t make them so—Truth is truth whether I believe it or not

Rom 3:3-4 For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? God forbid...

2Ti 2:13 If we believe not, *yet* he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

E. Christianity’s mission is to proclaim salvation by grace—And Jesus as Savior

1. Christianity doesn’t give life—God gives life—Christianity reveals that God gives life
2. God gets many to heaven who never believed in Jesus—Or knew about TULIP
3. Knowing the plan gets no one to heaven—Knowing the plan gives peace about going
4. Believing in Jesus gets no one to heaven—True belief in Jesus gives God all the glory
5. God’s part of salvation is to do all that is necessary to get His people to heaven
6. God finds the ones Christianity can’t find—God gets to those the preacher never will
7. The preacher’s job is to teach God’s people that God completely does God’s job
8. A real gospel preacher makes no claim to give life—But gives light to those in darkness
9. A real gospel preacher guides your feet to the way of peace that passes understanding
10. A real gospel preacher preaches the truth that makes you free—Gives God all the glory