

[This article is also available in PowerPoint format here](http://www.slideshare.net/frontfel/biblical-foundations-for-calvinism).

All the leaders of the Protestant Reformation of the 16th Century were united in proclaiming the sovereignty of God, the total depravity of man and unconditional election. On other issues, they may have had their differences, but on this point, that it is **God alone who saves sinners**, they spoke with one voice.

Salvation is all of God. God, the Triune Jehovah, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, does everything, from first to last, that is involved in bringing man from death and sin to life and glory. God completely saves guilty, vile, totally depraved sinners. Salvation is a work of grace from beginning to end. All men are by nature spiritually dead and their wills are in bondage to sin and satan. The ability to repent and to place one's faith in Christ is itself a gift from God. It takes regeneration by the Holy Spirit to make the sinner alive and given a new nature. Faith is not something man contributes to salvation, but it is itself a part of God's gift of salvation, it is not the sinner's gift to God.

The Arminian Heresy

Calvinism stands in sharp opposition to Arminianism, which is based upon the two philosophical principles:

- That divine sovereignty is not compatible with human freedom, nor with human responsibility;
- That lack of ability limits obligation.

The Arminian position maintained that:

- Man is never so completely corrupted by sin that he cannot savingly believe the Gospel when it is put before him;
- Man is never so completely controlled by God that He cannot reject His grace;
- God's election of those who shall be saved is prompted by His foreseeing what they of their own accord do;
- Christ's death did not ensure the salvation of anyone, but what it did was create the possibility of salvation for everyone if they believe;
- It depends on the believers to keep themselves in a state of grace by keeping up their faith. Those who fail, fall away and are lost.

The Synod of Dort

It was in response to the five points of Arminianism formulated in 1610 (1. Free Will or human ability, 2. Conditional Election, 3. Universal Redemption or general atonement, 4. The Holy Spirit can be effectually resisted, 5. Believers can fall from grace) that the Synod of Dort was convened in Holland in 1618.

The great Protestant Synod of Dort, which convened from 13 November 1618 to 9 May 1619, consisting of 84 learned church leaders and 18 secular commissioners, included 27 delegates in Germany, Switzerland and England. There were 154 sessions held during the 7 months. In response to **The Remonstrance** of the Arminians, the Synod defined **The Five**

Points of Calvinism: (1. The total depravity, 2. Unconditional election, 3. Limited atonement, 4. Irresistible grace, 5. Perseverance of the saints.) as the standard of Protestant orthodoxy. The Arminian theories were rejected as unBiblical. The Synod rejected the concept of a God who enables man to save himself and proclaimed a God who saves. The position that God only built the machinery of salvation, but that man, by believing, operates it, was completely rejected. Our salvation depends upon the work of God alone and to Him belongs all the glory. God, the Creator, is the source, the means and the end, both in nature and in grace.

The essentials of The Five Points of Calvinism were upheld and taught by the church fathers, such as Augustine, and the Reformers: John Wycliffe, Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli, Heinrich Bullinger, Martin Bucer, John Calvin; and prominent church leaders: George Whitefield, Johnathan Edwards, John Bunyan, John Newton, William Carey, Charles Spurgeon, David Livingstone, Abraham Kuyper, etc.

Scriptural Support for The Five Points of Calvinism

TOTAL DEPRAVITY

Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thought of his heart was only evil continually. Genesis 6:5

Truly the hearts of the sons of men are full of evil; and madness is in their hearts. Ecclesiastes 9:3

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, everyone, to his own way. Isaiah 53:6

We are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are like filthy rags. Isaiah 64:6

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it? Jeremiah 17:9

For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. Mark 7:21-22

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned. Romans 5:12

For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the Law of

God, nor indeed can it be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ♦

Romans 8:6 ♦ 8

As it is written: There is none righteous, no, not one; there is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God. They have all turned aside; they have together become unprofitable. There is none who does good, no, not one. Their throat is an open tomb; with their tongues they have practiced deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips; whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness. Their feet are swift to shed blood; destruction and misery are in their ways, and the way of peace they have not known. There is no fear of God before their eyes. ♦

Romans 3:8 ♦ 18

But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. ♦

1 Corinthians 2:14

And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh, and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. ♦

Ephesians 2:1 ♦ 3

This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; who, being past feeling have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. ♦

Ephesians 4:17 ♦ 19

And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will. ♦

2 Timothy 2:24 ♦ 26

To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work. ♦

Titus 1:15 ♦ 16

If we say that we have no sin,

we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His Word is not in us.

1 John 1:8, 10

In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother.

1 John 3:10

We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.

1 John 5:19

UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION

I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.

Exodus 33:19

For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth. The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; but because the Lord loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt. Therefore, know that the Lord your God, He is God, a faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His Commandments. He repays those who hate Him to their face, to destroy them. He will not be slack with him who hates Him; He will repay him to his face. Therefore, you shall keep the Commandment, the statutes and the judgments which I command you today, to observe them.

Deuteronomy 7:6

The Lord of Hosts has sworn, saying, surely as I have thought, so it shall come to pass, and as I have purposed, so it shall stand for the Lord of Hosts has purposed, and who will annul it? His hand has stretched out, and who will turn it back?

Isaiah 14:24, 27

For I am God, and there is no other; I am God and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure indeed I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it.

Isaiah 46:9

So shall My Word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in

the thing for which I sent it. **Isaiah 55:11** For I have chosen you, says the Lord of Hosts. **Haggai 2:23** Nor does anyone know the Father, except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him. **Matthew 11:27** You did not choose Me, but I choose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My Name, He may give you. **John 15:16** for many are called, but few are chosen. **Matthew 22:14** And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover, whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called; these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. **Romans 8:28-30** that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls. I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I have compassion, on whomever I will have compassion. So then, it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy. **Romans 9:11, 15** I have reserved for Myself 7,000 men who have not bowed the knee to Baal. Even so then, at this present time there is a Remnant according to election of grace. And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. **Romans 11:4-6** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise and glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved. **Ephesians 1:3-4** For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in Him. **Ephesians 2:8-10** For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good

pleasure. **Philippians 2:13** Knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God. For our Gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake. **1 Thessalonians 1:4** **5** For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. **1 Thessalonians 5:9** But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which He called you by our Gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ. **2 Thessalonians 2:13** **14** **Paul, a bondservant of God and an Apostle of Jesus Christ according to the faith of God's elect and the acknowledgement of the truth which accords with Godliness.** **Titus 1:1** **O, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has become His counselor? Or who has first given to Him that it shall be repaid to him? For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to Him be glory for ever. Amen.** **Hebrews 11:33** **36** **But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praise of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.** **1 Peter 2:9** **Written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world** **Revelation 17:8** **These will make war with the Lamb and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen and faithful.** **Revelation 17:14** **Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things, you will never stumble.** **2 Peter 1:10**

LIMITED ATONEMENT

lang="en-US">◆And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His Name, Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.◆ Matthew 1:21</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">◆Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.◆Matthew 20:28</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">◆For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.◆ Matthew 20:20</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">◆All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the One who comes to Me I will by no means cast out◆ This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.◆ John 6:37 ◆ 40 </p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">◆I am the good Shepherd, the good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep◆I am the good Shepherd; and I know M y sheep and am known by My sheep◆ I lay down My life for the sheep◆ they will hear My voice◆◆ John 10:11, 14 ◆ 16</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">◆My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.◆ John 10:27 ◆ 28</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">◆I have manifested Your Name to the men You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me and they have kept Your Word◆ I pray for them. I do not pray for the world, but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours◆ I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word◆◆ John 17:6, 9, 20</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">◆Therefore, take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the Church of God which He purchased with His own blood.◆ Acts 20:28</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">◆In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.◆ Ephesians 1:7</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">◆Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the Church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the Word.◆ Ephesians 5:25 ◆ 26</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">◆◆ Our great God and Saviour,

Jesus Christ who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. ♦

Titus 2:13 ♦ 14

Whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, that having being justified by His grace, we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ♦

Titus 3:6 ♦ 7

IRRESISTABLE GRACE

And the Lord your God will circumcise your heart and the hearts of your descendants to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live. ♦

Deuteronomy 30:6

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a new heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them. ♦

Ezekiel 36:26 ♦ 27

But to all who received Him, who believed in His Name, He gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. ♦

John 1:12 ♦ 13

Jesus answered and said to him, ♦ Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God ♦ He cannot enter Kingdom of God ♦ You must be born again ♦ born of the Spirit. ♦

John 3:3 ♦ 8

The Son gives life to whom He will. ♦

John 5:21

Whom God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Saviour, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ♦

Acts 5:31

Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life. ♦

Acts 11:18

When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the Word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed. ♦

Acts 14:48

The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul. ♦

Acts 16:14

align="justify" lang="en-US">Those who had believed through grace. Acts 18:27</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles Galatians 1:15 & 16</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. Romans 8:14</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">The Spirit gives life. 2 Corinthians 3:6</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, old things have passed away; behold all things have become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. Ephesians 2:8 & 9 </p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">If God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will. 2 Timothy 2:25 & 26</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true 1 John 5:20</p> <h3 style="margin-bottom: 0cm; font-style: normal;" xml:lang="en-US" lang="en-US">PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS</h3> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">And I will make an everlasting Covenant with them, that I will not turn away from doing them good; but I will put My fear in their hearts so they will not depart from Me. Jeremiah 32:40</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in Heaven, that one of these little ones should perish. Matthew 18:41</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">He who believes in the Son has everlasting life

John 3:36

Most assuredly I say to you, he who believes My Word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has past from death into life.

John 5:24

All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out This is the will of the Father who sent Me that of all that He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day.

John 6:37, 39

Most assuredly I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life.

John 6:47

My sheep hear My voice and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

John 10:27

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? for I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:35

In Him you also trusted, after you heard the Word of Truth, the Gospel of your salvation; in Him also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 1:13

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by Whom you were sealed for the Day of Redemption.

Ephesians 4:30

Now, may the God of Peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

1 Thessalonians 5:23

And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly Kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen!

2 Timothy 4:18

For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

Hebrews 10:14

lang="en-US">◆Blessed be the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in Heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.◆ 1 Peter 1:3 ◆

5</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">◆And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the Name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, that you may continue to believe in the Name of the Son of God.◆ 1 John 5:11 ◆ 13</p>

<p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">◆◆ To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father and preserved in Jesus Christ.◆ Jude 1</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">◆Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to God our Saviour, who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen.◆ Jude 24 ◆ 25</p>

<h3 style="margin-bottom: 0cm; font-style: normal;" xml:lang="en-US" lang="en-US">CONCLUSION</h3> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm; font-style: normal; font-weight: medium;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">Man by nature is corrupt, perverse and sinful throughout. The whole of man's being has been affected by sin. This corruption extends to every part of man, his body and soul, his mind and will. As a result of this inborn corruption and our sinful choices, the natural man is enslaved to sin, a child of satan, rebellious towards God, blind to truth, corrupt and dead in sin. Consequently, men have cut themselves off from the God of Heaven and have forfeited all rights to His love and favour.</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm; font-style: normal; font-weight: medium;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">God was under no obligation whatsoever to provide salvation for anyone. However, by His grace and mercy, God has chosen to save many, by the Father's act of election, by the redeeming work of the Son and by the renewing work of the Holy Spirit.</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm; font-style: normal; font-weight: medium;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">While Christ's saving work was limited in that it was designed to save some, and not others, it was not limited in value, for His redemption was of infinite worth and is completely effective in securing salvation for all whom the Lord chooses.</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm; font-style: normal; font-weight: medium;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">The Holy Spirit never fails to bring to salvation those sinners whom He personally calls to Christ. The work of the Holy Spirit, which is accomplished through regeneration, renews the will so that the sinner spontaneously comes to Christ of his own free choice because of the new nature he has been given. As his mind is enlightened by the effectual call of the Holy Spirit, the renewed sinner freely and willingly turns to Christ as Lord and Saviour.</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm; font-style: normal; font-weight: medium;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">In this way, the one that

had been dead in his trespasses and sins is drawn to Christ by the inward supernatural call of the Holy Spirit who through regeneration makes him alive and creates within him faith and repentance. The irresistible call of the Holy Spirit is invincible in that, it can never be thwarted or refused, and it never fails to bring those whom God has predestined unto life and true faith in Christ.

The elect are not only redeemed by Christ and renewed by the Holy Spirit, but they are kept in faith by the power of Almighty God. Nothing can separate God's people from His eternal and unchangeable love. Those who have been predestined unto eternal glory are assured of Heaven.

They whom God hath accepted in His beloved, effectually called and sanctified by His Spirit, can neither totally, nor finally, fall away from the state of grace: but shall certainly persevere ther unto the end, and be eternally saved.

The Westminster Confession of Faith

True believers will always persevere to the end. Those who fall away do not fall from grace, for they were never in grace.

The prince of preachers, Charles Spurgeon declared:

It is no novelty, then, that I am preaching; no new doctrine. I love to proclaim the strong old doctrines, that are called by the nickname Calvinism, but which are surely and verily the revealed truth of God as it is in Christ Jesus. By this truth I make a pilgrimage into the past and as I go, I see father after father, confessor after confessor, martyr after martyr, standing up to shake hands with me taking these things to be the standard of my faith, I see the land of the ancients peopled with my brethren; I behold multitudes confess the same as I do, and acknowledge that this is the religion of God's own Church.

Spurgeon wrote:

The longer I live, the clearer does it appear that John Calvin's system is the nearest to perfection.

The Roman Catholic Church declared that Calvin was

of the church of Rome.

John Calvin wrote in his Institutes, that:

Of human writings, however artfully polished, there is none capable of effecting us at all comparably with Scripture. Which, so deeply will it effect you, so penetrate your heart, so fix itself in your marrow, that, compared with its deep impression, such vigour as orators and philosophers have will nearly vanish.

Calvin taught that:

True piety consists in a sincere feeling which loves God as Father as much as it fears and reverences Him as Lord, embraces His righteousness and dreads offending Him worst than death.

xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">Calvin taught that: ◆The challenge and power of the Gospel may be allowed to cleanse, regenerate and direct not only the human heart but every aspect of social life on earth ◆ family affairs, education, economics and politics. Christ sought not only an altar in the human heart for His priestly ministry, but a throne at the centre of all human life for His Kingdom ministry.◆</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">Calvin taught that ◆Both Church and state are divinely ordained and created and both are directly under Jesus Christ as both Lord of the Church and King of kings. Although both institutions have different spheres of operation, both are still under God◆s Law.◆</p> <p style="margin-bottom: 0cm;" xml:lang="en-US" align="justify" lang="en-US">Charles Spurgeon wrote of Calvin: ◆No age before him ever produced his equal, and no age after him has seen his rival.◆</p> <p> </p> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;"> John Calvin - A Heart Aflame and a Mind Renewed from Peter Hammond</div>