

The Errors of Calvinism and Arminianism

Study Pak 4

1. Perseverance of the Saints

"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 _____ therein to the end, and be eternally saved" (The Westminster Confession Chapter XVII, Section 1).

2. The Calvinist will say that you will have ups and downs, but a true Christian will not live in _____ sin, persevering until the end of his life in the faith and with the evidence of fruit.
3. Although God desires us to bear much _____, we must be very careful about using fruit as a _____ for salvation.
4. Some Calvinists will say that a Christian _____ have fruit in his life, and if not then he was never saved to begin with. Matthew 7:16-20 may be used to prove this: Matthew 7:16-20 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? ¹⁷ Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. ²⁰ Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.
5. First of all, this passage is not about Christians, but false _____:
Matthew 7:15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.
6. Fruit here is a means of determining whether a teacher is _____, not his salvation.
7. The presence or absence of fruit in a Christian cannot be used to _____ whether he is saved. Many lost people live upright, moral lives. Yet they are bound for an eternity in Hell.

8. **5 Points of Arminianism**

1. **Free _____ or Human Ability**

Although human nature was seriously affected by the fall, man has not been left in a state of total spiritual helplessness. God graciously enables every sinner to repent and believe, but He does not interfere with man's freedom. Each sinner possesses a free will, and his eternal destiny depends on how he uses it. The sinner has the power to either cooperate with God's Spirit and be regenerated or resist God's grace and perish.

9. **2. Conditional _____**

God's choice of certain individuals unto salvation before the foundation of the world was based upon His foreseeing that they would respond to His call.

10. **3. _____ Atonement**

Jesus died for everyone, even those who will not believe.

11. **4. Resistible _____**

God's call to be saved can be resisted and/or rejected.

12. **5. _____ Salvation**

Christians can lose their salvation if they continue in a life of sin and/or fall away from God. The maintenance of salvation is required for a Christian to retain it.

13. The Arminian will quickly and almost exclusively go to _____.

Hebrews 10:26-29 For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. ²⁸ He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: ²⁹ Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

14. Calvinists explain that this passage is not speaking of _____ Christians, but pertains to those unsaved persons who, after receiving the knowledge of the truth, still refuse to accept the substitutionary sacrifice of Jesus Christ.
15. But this is written to _____ and follows in sequence with the other exhortations. The believer who begins to _____ from the Word (Heb. 2:1-4) will soon start to _____ the Word (Heb. 3:7-4:13). Soon, he will become _____ toward the Word (Heb. 5:11-6:20) and become "lazy" in his spiritual life. This will result in _____ the Word.
16. The evidence of this "despising" is _____ sin. This exhortation is not dealing with one particular act of sin, but with an _____ that leads to repeated disobedience.
17. Under the Old Covenant, there were no sacrifices for _____ and _____ sins (Ex. 21:12-14; Num. 15:27-31). Presumptuous sinners who despised Moses' Law and broke it were executed (Deut. 17:1-7).
18. How does an arrogant attitude affect a believer's relationship with God? It is as though he trods Jesus Christ _____, cheapens the precious blood that saved him and insults the Holy Spirit.
19. This is just the opposite of the exhortation given in Hebrews 10:19-25! Instead of having a bold profession of faith, hope, and love, a backslidden believer so lives that his actions and attitudes bring _____ to the name of Christ and the church. What can this kind of a Christian expect from God? He can expect severe discipline. (Chastening is the theme of Heb. 12.)
20. There is no need to "water down" words such as "judgment and _____ indignation" (Heb. 10:27), or "sorcerer _____" (Heb. 10:29).

21. Nearly all who were _____ out of Egypt by the blood of the Passover lamb died in the wilderness. "There is a sin unto death" (1 John 5:16). Some of the Corinthian believers were disciplined and their _____ taken because of their presumptuous sins (1 Cor. 11:30).
22. What about Hebrews 6:4-8 For *it is* impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, ⁵ And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, ⁶ If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put *him* to an open shame. ⁷ For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God: ⁸ But that which beareth thorns and briers *is* rejected, and *is* nigh unto cursing; whose end *is* to be burned.
23. We know they've "_____ been enlightened". They have "_____ of the heavenly gift", which does not mean they just nibbled at it. The same writer used the same word earlier in the book when he said Jesus "tasted death for every man"(Heb 2:9). They also "_____ the good word of God and the powers of the age to come." Lastly, they "have been made _____ of the Holy Spirit". Romans 8:9 makes a pretty convincing argument that anyone who has the Spirit indwelling them is in the body of Christ. All these references allude to a person who is truly saved, not one who is only religious or pretending to have a relationship with the Lord.
24. Let's look at that word repentance. Notice that it does not say it is impossible to renew them again to _____. In fact, the Greek word for "fallen away" is *parapipto* which can literally be translated "to _____ or fall along side".
25. In verse 9, the writer mentions that he is "convinced of _____ things of you, and things that accompany salvation." The thing that accompanies salvation is a believer's fruit.

26. Verses 7 and 8, the writer talks about the ground _____ fruit, and it being judged if it is without fruit. A parallel chapter is found in 1 Corinthians 3:12-15 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; ¹³ Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. ¹⁴ If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. ¹⁵ If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.
27. The person is saved, but his opportunity for witness and his ability to impact other people (not to mention the service he could render for Christ) will be forever _____.
28. The repentance that the writer to Hebrews speaks of is a "repentance from dead _____" mentioned in verse one of the same chapter.
29. The entire chapter of Hebrews 6 is devoted to the Hebrew believers showing their faith through their _____. The writer emphasizes the believers' security in their salvation when he makes statements like "the full assurance of hope until the end (vs. 11)"; "The unchangeableness of His purpose (vs. 17)"; and "this hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast (vs. 19)".
30. Some have asked this question: *What if I totally turn away from all the things of God and _____ Christ after I become a Christian?*
31. What if you turned away from your biological parents and denied you were a member of their family? You would still be their offspring. The same is true for those who have been _____ into the family of God through the merits of Christ's shed blood: Ephesians 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; (**Memorize**)

32. As children of God, we are _____ everlasting life (John 6:47), but we are also assured of God's _____ for our disobedience. We are not under condemnation in Christ (Romans 8:1), but turning away from God will forfeit our joy and peace. Christ came that we might have life more abundantly.

33. **Preservation of the Saints**

The Bible teaches the eternal _____ of the born-again believer. The man who has trusted Jesus Christ has everlasting life and will never perish.

34. But the eternal security of the believer does not depend on his _____. Perseverance is one thing. _____ is another.

Jude 1:1 Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, *and* called:

1 Thessalonians 5:23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

35. 1 Peter 1:4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

The believer's security has nothing to do with his persevering. We are secure because we are _____ by God.

36. John 10:28-29 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand. 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.

Ephesians 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. **(Memorize)**

John 6:47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

Romans 8:29-35 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. 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. ³¹ What shall we then say to these things? If God *be* for us, who *can be* against us? ³² He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? ³³ Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? *It is* God that justifieth. ³⁴ Who *is* he that condemneth? *It is* Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

Write the following verses:

37. Ephesians 1:7
Ephesian 4:30