

5.2 Orthodoxy verses Roman Catholic and Protestant Anthropology

A comparison Calvinist and Arminian Protestantism and Catholicism Orthodox views of man

	PROTESTANT	ROMAN CATHOLIC	ORTHODOX
NATURE OF MAN	<p><i>Cal:</i> Man is born 'totally depraved,' worthy of death, Original Sin + Sin Nature He cannot not sin. sinful: a bigger <u>part of our nature than RC.....</u></p> <p><i>Arm</i> has same view of man but mitigated by 'prevenient grace'</p>	<p>Man is born with the "stain of sin 'macula.' Original Sin. Born (by nature) sinful, guilty. Sin becomes part of our 'being'</p>	<p>Man is born a pure 'image bearer' but with ancestral / hereditary propensity towards sins committed by forebears. Ontologically made to be good, but by nature free...nature is free, no sin in man's nature</p>
ELECTION	<p><i>Calvin:</i> Man is allowed a place in heaven by God alone in "unconditional election" ...He has no say, no effort /work <u>necessary ALL God.</u></p> <p><i>Arm</i> view election based on foreknowledge of God</p>	<p>No Election...Just the Church. Man, once he has completed paying for his sins through time in purgatory, is eventually allowed into heaven. Dispensed by RC Church</p>	<p>Elect are those who have chosen God. Man can choose to participate in the life of God in a cooperative relationship the Church calls synergy. Church facilitates it - not controls it</p>
The Cross/Atonement	<p><i>Calvin:</i> Cross paid for the sins of the elect. (Limited Atonement). The Church is not a factor, nor is the will of man. the elect (only) have <u>been purchased by Christ</u></p> <p><i>Arm:</i> the cross paid the debt for all.</p>	<p>The work of the Cross paid our ransom (legal guilt) to the devil. Now the Church can judicially intercede for man in his journey to heaven. He is only able to do this through the Church - his legal representative to God.</p>	<p>The work of the Cross of Christ overcomes (and heals our shared humanity to overcome) sin and death. Man is now able, through effort and grace (offered in the Tradition of the Church) to attain union with God in deification</p>
Grace / Free will	<p><i>Calvin:</i> God draws the people He has chosen - they will (and must!) respond to His call. Grace is irresistible to the elect...not available to the <u>non-elect</u></p> <p><i>Arm.</i> Man is free to reject God and can lose his salvation</p>	<p>God draws man through the Church and man is able to respond only as the Church. Grace is mediated through the Church - who alone dispenses or withholds</p>	<p>God (the Father) draws all men to the Son in the Holy Spirit. Man is able to choose: this <i>is</i> the Church. Grace is available to all, both accessible and resistible in the Church.</p>
Salvation	<p>Salvation is won in this life but also experienced only after death. either has to be re-won periodically (Armenian), or can never be lost (Calvinist), but</p>	<p>Salvation is won and attained after death. Through purgatory and the work of the Church after death. Experienced after the</p>	<p>The work of Salvation is the goal and purpose of this life and continues into the next. It is not 'won' or 'lost,' but experienced</p>

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always as a physical place of reward after death.	resurrection and entrance into 'heaven.'	here. Paradise is not just a place but the resurrected, eternal 'state.'
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