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| **TULIP versus ROSES** | |
| **T**otal Depravity – Man’s total lack of spiritual good and inability to do good before God. | **R**adical Depravity– Compared with total depravity, *radical depravity* agrees that every aspect of our being was damaged through the Fall and we can do nothing to save ourselves, but affirms that humans are not totally evil because we retain the image of God despite our fallenness. |
| **U**nconditional Election – An act of God before creation in which he chooses some people to be saved, not on account of any foreseen merit in them, but only because of his sovereign good pleasure | **O**vercoming Grace – Compared with irresistible grace, *overcoming grace* (or effectual calling) affirms that God accomplishes salvation, but differs in that rather than salvation being a mechanical and deterministic process, it allows for even sinful, obstinate humans to respond to God’s persistent wooing. |
| **L**imited Atonement – Christ’s death actually paid for the sins of those whom he knew would ultimately be saved. A preferable term for this view is ‘particular redemption’ in that the power of the atonement is not limited, but rather it is fully effective for particular people | **S**overeign Election – In contrast to the double predestinarianism of unconditional election, God sovereignly elects those whom He foreknows will respond to Him. |
| **I**rresistible Grace – A term that refers to the fact that God effectively calls people and also gives them regeneration, both of which guarantee that we will respond in saving faith. This term is subject to misunderstanding since it seems to imply that people do not make a voluntary, willing choice in responding to the gospel | **E**ternal Life – The phrase “perseverance of the saints” might suggest that although we are saved by grace, we are kept by our good works. The phrase “Once saved, always saved” could suggest that we could claim Christ as Savior without making Him Lord of our lives. |
| **P**erseverance of the Saints – The doctrine that all those who are truly ‘born again’ will be kept by God’s power and will persevere as Christians until the end of their lives, and that only those who persevere until the end have truly been ‘born again’ | **S**ingular Redemption – Finally, unlike limited atonement, *singular redemption* communicates that Jesus’ death was sufficient to save everyone but is efficient only for those who repent and believe. |
| Above definitions from Wayne Grudem’s *Systematic Theology*. He defines Calvinism as “A theological that emphasizes the sovereignty of God in all things, man’s inability to do spiritual good before God, and the glory of God as the highest end of all that occurs.” | Acronym created by Timothy George, *Amazing Grace: God’s Initiative – Our Response* (Lifeway, 2000) pg. 71-83. Definitions by TC Robinson found at: https://nleaven.wordpress.com/2013/11/12/roses-alternative-to-tulip-by-timothy-george/ |