



Ramifications for the Future: The Theological Challenge for Protestant Youth; Comparison of the Supralapsarian & Infralapsarian Orders of the Elective Decrees

53. None of this could have occurred if the clear message of the Word of God had been communicated by its Protestant pastors during this half century of Luciferian delusion.

VIII. Ramifications for the Future

1. The confusion that presently hobbles Protestantism was evident at its beginnings. And the one who started the confusion did so by hiding behind the name and borrowing the power of John Calvin.
2. Theodore Bèza developed the false doctrine of limited atonement and was able to sell it by associating the idea with his mentor. Others bought in and then contributed to making the problem even worse.
3. Therefore, Theodore Bèza's distortions of Calvin's theology are an illustration of Cyril of Alexandria's distortions of Nestorius's theology.
4. Presenting this as an illustration required me to introduce into our study of hermeneutics the circumstances that surrounded the Protestant Reformation, Bèza's association with Calvin, and his development of "limited atonement."
5. Interest in this portion of our study was so strong that it became evident to me that I had to expand the study and present a detailed examination of this heresy. I assure you I have only scratched the surface.
6. But enough information has been presented to alert the next generation about how the growing popularity of what is called Reformed theology threatens them personally.
7. The controversy has been sufficiently explained. The two parties in conflict have a number of issues that define their respective positions. Defining these differences between the two can become very complex, as you have surely noticed.
8. But the simplest way to identify one from the other is to compare the order of the elective decrees subscribed to by each.
9. Those in Reformed theology that are hyper-Calvinists subscribe to the **supralapsarian order of the elective decrees**:
 - 1- The decree to elect some to be saved and to reprobate all others.
 - 2- The decree to create men, both elect and non-elect.
 - 3- The decree to permit the fall.
 - 4- The decree to provide salvation for the elect.
 - 5- The decree to apply salvation to the elect.
10. Those who reject this branch of Reformed theology may be classified as "moderate Calvinists" although the term "Biblicist" is better. These subscribe to the **infralapsarian order of the elective decrees**:
 - 1- The decree to create mankind.
PRINCIPLE: You cannot elect what does not exist. For God to elect anyone, they must first of all be created.
 - 2- The decree to permit the Fall.



PRINCIPLE: Condemnation must precede salvation. If man is in need of salvation then he is obviously in a fallen condition.

3- The decree to provide salvation for all mankind.

PRINCIPLE: The doctrine of unlimited atonement, the principle that Christ died as a substitute for the sins of all mankind, not just a predetermined few.

4- The decree to elect those who believe in Christ and to leave in just condemnation all who do not believe.

PRINCIPLE: God provides all men free will to accept or reject His grace offer of salvation through faith alone in Christ alone.

5- The decree to apply salvation to those who believe in Christ.

PRINCIPLE: Each individual must first choose God's plan of salvation, after which, God decrees to save that person's soul and impute eternal life to his human spirit.

11. Protestant youth today are discovering that there are real and serious differences that exist among their respective churches. This is especially true when these differences challenge basic beliefs regarding one's salvation and assurance.
12. This is seen in the growing popularity of "lordship salvation" which is a slippery slope toward "limited atonement."