

A Case Against Calvinism – Lesson 4

Calvinism Versus Arminianism

Romans 16:17-18

Introduction: Since the 3rd century, because of the theology of Augustine there has been a debate in the church concerning the Sovereignty of God and the Free Will of Man. This debate reached a boiling point in the 15th century thanks to the theology of Calvin. History does not reflect well on the way that this debate has been conducted among the Church. Disdain and hatred have been accepted as appropriate behavior among the church for those who have a difference of opinion.

Today some of us find ourselves in an uncomfortable position because we do not know how to label ourselves. For centuries there has only been two recognized positions to hold on the subjects. We have been told that we either adhere to Calvinism or Arminianism. Neither one is totally acceptable to us. It is unsettling to understand the beginnings of the disagreement between Calvinism and Arminianism and listen to some of the rhetoric of the Extreme Calvinist of our present time. This will be our last historical look at the issue of Calvinism before we begin to deal with the doctrine and questions associated with it. I do believe that it is important for us to have a good understanding of the history so we can clearly see what we are facing today.

I. The man named Arminius.

A. His _____.

B. His _____.

C. His _____.

D. His _____.

E. His _____.

F. His _____.

G. His _____.

II. The rise of Arminianism.

- A. The _____ to Arminius' _____.

- B. The reformation and the role of _____.

- C. The Remonstrance.

- D. The _____ to the Remonstrance.

- E. The _____ Remonstrance.

III. The Synod of Dort.

IV. The Anabaptist.