



1. Calvinists often contradict themselves in what some call “_____”

2. However, they claim their contradictions are not _____ but just an _____ of the human mind to reconcile _____ ideas

J.I. Packer, *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*:

“God orders and controls all things, human actions among them ... yet He holds every man responsible for the choices he makes and the courses of action he pursues ... To our finite minds this is inexplicable ... in thinking it through we have to deal with an antinomy in biblical revelation, and in such circumstances our finite, fallen minds are more than ordinarily apt to go astray. What is an antinomy? ‘[It is a] contradiction between conclusions which seem equally logical, reasonable or necessary.’ For the whole point of antinomy is that it is not a real contradiction though it looks like one. ... it is forced on us by the facts themselves. It is unavoidable, and it is insoluble. We do not invent it, and we cannot explain it. Nor is there any way to get rid of it, save by falsifying the very facts that led us to it. ... Accept it for what it is and learn to live with it. Refuse to regard the inconsistency as real; put down the semblance of contradiction to the deficiency of your own understanding”

3. Their definition of _____ is faulty

Calvinist total depravity = from the Fall, every aspect of human nature – mind, will, and emotions – is corrupted by sin; and therefore, humans are enslaved to sin and are completely _____ to respond to God or choose to follow Him

- Adam & Eve were _____ in sin, but they could still _____ God and _____ to Him
- If “dead” & “slave” mean _____, can believers _____ if they are “dead” to sin and “slaves” to righteousness?
- The _____ “walk” in _____

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4. What about children who die before they reach the “age of accountability” – are they saved?

“No death occurs apart from the purpose of God, no life occurs apart from the purpose of God. ... I think the Word of God will affirm the salvation of little ones who die. ... If every life is so precious that God knows it all, plans it all, guards and protects it all, never loses sight of anything, then they must matter to Him. They must matter to Him. And we could conclude from that alone that since God is by nature a Savior and since God is not willing that any should perish but all should come to repentance and since God would have all men to be saved, there’s every reason to believe just from that alone that a caring God who created that life to begin with, who superintends and guards that life, who knows intimately everything about that life, should that life perish physically in its infancy, there would be every reason from that Psalm [139] alone to trust the grace of God who is by nature a Savior in behalf of that life.” John MacArthur, “The Salvation of Babies Who Die,” pt 1, <https://www.gty.org/sermons/80-242/the-salvation-of-babies-who-die-part-1>

5. If we allow the Bible to speak with words, using their _____ meanings, rather than changing the meaning to accommodate our _____ beliefs, it will not _____ itself and Calvinism _____.