

## Is Calvinism Biblical: *Unconditional Election* (Chapters 3–4)

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Lunch with Niemelä

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### INTRODUCTION

**Calvinism's Five Points** (never stated by Calvin himself, but only by those claiming to follow him)

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>T</b> = Total Depravity (Inability)   | Man is dead, totally incapable of believing             |
| <b>U</b> = <b>Unconditional Election</b> | God randomly picked who would (would not) be saved      |
| <b>L</b> = Limited Atonement             | Jesus only died for those God picked for salvation      |
| <b>I</b> = Irresistible Grace            | God irresistibly causes all (whom He picked) to believe |
| <b>P</b> = Perseverance of Saints        | All true believers persevere to end in faith/good works |

A major problem with TULIP theology is that it is really \_\_\_\_\_ theology

What would irresistible grace be like?

### CHAPTER 3: PEOPLE JUDGING THEMSELVES UNWORTHY

**Acts 13** occurs in a synagogue in **Pisidian Antioch** (south-central Turkey, not Antioch of Syria)

#### Chronology of Acts 13

##### Paul focused on reaching Jews

|                             |           |                    |
|-----------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Arrival in Antioch          | 13:13-14a | Mid-July A.D. 48   |
| First Sabbath after arrival | 13:14b-43 | probably = July 20 |
| Second Sabbath              | 13:44-48  | probably = July 27 |

##### Paul focused on reaching Gentiles

|           |          |                             |
|-----------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Aftermath | 13:49-52 | until mid September A.D. 48 |
|-----------|----------|-----------------------------|

Paul was invited to speak after Scripture readings (13:15)

#### Audience

Men of Israel \_\_\_\_\_ (13:16a, 26a, 42a, 43a, 45)

Proselytes \_\_\_\_\_ (13:43b)

God fearers \_\_\_\_\_ (13:16b, 26b, 42b, 46, 48)

## **Message of Acts 13: An overview of Israel's History**

Call of Abram (13:17)

Israel in Egypt (13:17)

Crossing the Red Sea (13:17)

Wilderness wanderings (13:18)

Conquest and allotment of land to the tribes (13:19)

About 450 years of the judges (13:20)

Israel demands a king: God gave them Saul (13:21)

David, a man after God's own heart (13:22)

Jesus, the Savior, who is the crucified and resurrected seed of David

All believers are justified, which the law could not do (13:39)

Eternal life (13:48)

(Excursis: Do unbelievers live forever?)

## **Response to the message (13:42-43)**

### **The Next Sabbath (13:44ff)**

#### **Rejection (13:46)**

Who did the appointing?

When did the appointing happen?

## **Chapter 4: People Unwilling (John 5:39-40)**

Searching the Scriptures but not finding Jesus

Searching the 613 laws of the Old Testament

Unwilling to come to Jesus in faith

Looking for the wrong things, not finding the solution

## **CONCLUSION**