



SBAOC Weekly Update

NEWS & PRAYER REQUESTS

- **The SBAOC annual meeting will be held on Friday & Saturday, October 27-28, at Mount Zion Community Church in Arkansas City, Kansas. See page 2 for details.**

If you have any news, prayer requests, articles, or events that you would like to have included in this update, please email the information to Tony Mattia at spurgeonassociation@gmail.com.

DOCTRINES OF GRACE IN THE NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFESSION

For the next few weeks, we will continue reviewing the booklet *The Doctrines of Grace in the New Hampshire Confession* by author and editor Leroy D. Cole. This was originally published by Baptist Book Trust, Atlas, Michigan in 1979. The table of contents is listed below.

- Chapter 1: An Introduction
- Chapter 2: Why a Confession?
- Chapter 3: Advantageous Creeds
- Chapter 4: The History of the New Hampshire Confession
- Chapter 5: John Newton Brown
- Chapter 6: The Doctrines of Grace
- Chapter 7: The Free Offer
- Chapter 8: Chart of Doctrines of Grace in the Confession
- Chapter 9: Exposition of Doctrines of Grace in the Confession
- Chapter 10: Glossary of Terms

Doctrines of Grace in the New Hampshire Confession

Week #4 of 5

- Chapter 7: What is the Free Offer?
- Chapter 8: Calvinism and Arminianism Compared on The Fall of Man, Election, Salvation, Justification, Regeneration, and Perseverance

WHAT IS THE FREE OFFER?

Mark 2:17

This question arises because some would say, "If God is only and surely going to save the elect then why preach? Should we preach to men as men knowing that all will not believe?" We answer this in eight statements:

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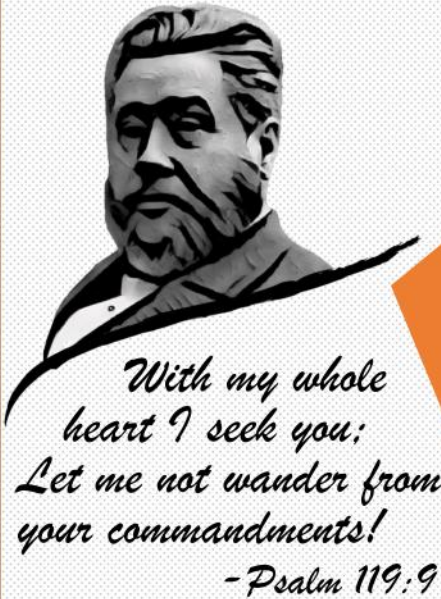
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PURPOSE STATEMENT:

We unite as an association of Southern Baptist churches in order to manifest the glory of God above all. We purpose to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. We covenant to strengthen and support one another, motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture, by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.

"If there is no church... should you not commence one?" C. H. Spurgeon



The Spurgeon Baptist Association of Churches

2023 ANNUAL MEETING

RSVP by October 23rd

Schedule: Friday and Saturday, October 27-28

Friday Evening:	7 PM	Reception with light refreshments
Saturday:	8 AM	Breakfast and Fellowship
	9 AM	Annual Meeting
		Annual Sermon— Terry Coker
	11 AM	Dismissal

Please RSVP by October 23rd:

- For attendance in person on Friday, Saturday or both, please RSVP to: <spurgeonassociation@gmail.com>
- For online attendance via TEAMS, RSVP by contacting Terry Coker at: <terry.coker@sbaoc.onmicrosoft.com>

Location:

Mt Zion Community Church

31948 31st Rd

Arkansas City, KS 67005

UPCOMING EVENTS

SBAOC Annual Meeting—October 27 & 28. Mount Zion Community Church, Arkansas City, Kansas. Details on page 2. Please RSVP by October 23.

National Founders Conference—January 18-20, 2024. Theme: *Remember Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 2:8)* with Tom Ascol, Phil Johnson, Conrad Mbewe, Joel Beeke, & Travis Allen. Go to founders.org/conference for more information.

If you have a conference or event that you would like listed here, please contact us by email: spurgeonassociation@gmail.com.

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1. The great commission commands us to preach the gospel to every creature. Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15
2. The ordained means of grace must not be circumvented. 1 Cor.1:21
3. The responsibility of man is not revoked by his bankrupt state. Acts 17:30, 20:21
4. Because many will be saved there will be a harvest. Acts 18:10; Luke 12:52
5. Because the Saviour preached to men. Mark 2:17; Rev. 22:17
6. Because those who went before us desired our salvation, prayed for us when we could not and would not desire or pray.
7. Because church history tells us of those who loved the doctrines of grace and preached a substitutionary and sufficient Saviour.
8. Because the Gospel is the Power of God unto Salvation. Rom. 1:16, 10:14-16

Erroll Hulse in THE FREE OFFER OF THE GOSPEL says:

The essence of evangelical Calvinism is a biblical combination of the doctrines of grace combined with the most fervent evangelistic endeavor in which Christ's invitation to unconverted men is made, freely, affectionately, clearly, earnestly and personally. The biblical foundation for the free offer goes right back to the nature of God and his dealings with fallen man. As has been shown men are dead in sin, being dead to spiritual matters because of their enmity to God. Yet they are not dead as men. They still bear God's image. They are still moral, rational, responsible creatures. However miserable in their unregenerate state they are not irresponsibly dead. God deals with them as responsible and accountable and reasons with and addresses them as such. So ought we. This is the root of the matter and the reason why it is necessary to be clear about common grace. It cannot be too strongly stressed that we speak to men (AS MEN). They are not tables and chairs or cups and saucers. They are very much alive, very much alive toward a world without God.

L. Berkhof in SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY states the case ably:

Finally, there is an objection derived from the BONA FIDE OFFER OF SALVATION. We believe that God "unfeignedly, that is, sincerely or in good faith calls all those who are living under the gospel to believe, and offers them salvation in the way of faith and repentance. Now the Arminians maintain that such an offer of salvation cannot be made by those who believe that Christ died only for the elect. This objection was already raised at the time of the Synod of Dort, but its validity was not granted. The following remarks may be made in reply: (a) The offer of salvation in the way of faith and repentance does not pretend to be a revelation of the secret counsel of God, more specifically, of His design in giving Christ as an atonement for sin. It is simply the promise of salvation to all those who accept Christ by faith. (2) This offer, in so far as it is universal, is always conditioned by faith and conversion. Moreover, it is contingent on a faith and repentance such as can only be wrought in the heart of man by the operation of the Holy Spirit. (3) The universal offer of salvation does not consist in the declaration that Christ made atonement for every man that hears the gospel, and that God really intends to save each one. It consists in (a) an exposition of the atoning work of Christ as in itself sufficient for the redemption of all men; (b) a description of the real nature of the repentance and faith that are required in coming to Christ; and (c) a declaration that each one who comes to Christ with true repentance and faith will obtain the blessings of salvation. (4) It is not the duty of the preacher to harmonize the secret counsel of God respecting the redemption of sinners with His declarative will as expressed in the universal offer of salvation. He is simply an official ambassador, whose duty it is to carry out the will of the Lord in preaching the gospel to all men indiscriminately. (continued on pg. 4)



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Calvinism

CHAPTER 8

Arminianism

Of The Fall Of Man

1.
Man is so dead spiritually that he cannot and will not believe the gospel.

We believe that man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker; but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but by choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil;

1.
Man is never so dead that he cannot respond to God.

2.

Of God's Purpose of Grace

Unconditional Election
God elects and gives faith

Election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy, and unchangeable;

2.

Conditional Election
God foresees faith and elects.

3.

Definite Atonement
God redeems the Elect.

Of the Way of Salvation
... the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace; through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God; who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the divine law by his personal obedience, and by his death made a full atonement for our sins;

3.
General Atonement
God made possible salvation to those who may hear.

Of Justification

... that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood; by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God;

Of Repentance and Faith

We believe that Repentance and Faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God;

4.

Of Grace in Regeneration

An Effectual calling that brings the elect to faith in Christ.

We believe that, in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; that it is effected, in a manner above our comprehension, by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel; and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life.

4.

General call that all men hear alike.

5.

Of the Perseverance of Saints

All those elected, redeemed, and called will persever.

We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special Providence watches over their welfare; and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

5.

Those who believe may not make it to glory.

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PRAYER MEETINGS FOR SPIRITUAL AWAKENING AND REVIVAL

- Fellowship Baptist Church in Onaga, Kansas—5:00 pm on Sundays
- Trinity Baptist Church in Wamego, Kansas—8:00 pm on Saturdays

The Spurgeon Baptist Association of Churches is an association of Southern Baptist Churches that are united to manifest the glory of God above all. We set out to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. As an association of churches we are bound in mutual covenant to strengthen and support one another - motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture - by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.

We are a non-geographic association seeking to include any like-minded body of believers so that together we might better fulfill the great commission of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our intent is to lean on His instruction and not our imaginations so that He is honored in all that we do. We welcome churches who adhere to the confessions of faith accepted by Southern Baptists throughout their history, including, but not limited to, the Second London Confession (1689) and the Baptist Faith and Message.

