

# Church History Literacy

## Did God Pick Me or Did I Pick Him?

(a/k/a Jacob Arminius and the Changing  
Protestant Church)

### Lesson 64

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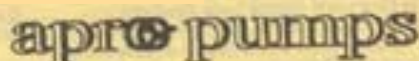




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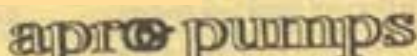
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Back in the 1500's:





Back in the 1500's:



- *Church*



# In the 1500's



## Rome



# In the 1500's



Rome



Protest

# In the 1500's



Rome  
(Roman Catholic)



Protest



# In the 1500's



Rome  
(Roman Catholic)



Protest  
(Protestant)

# In the 1600's



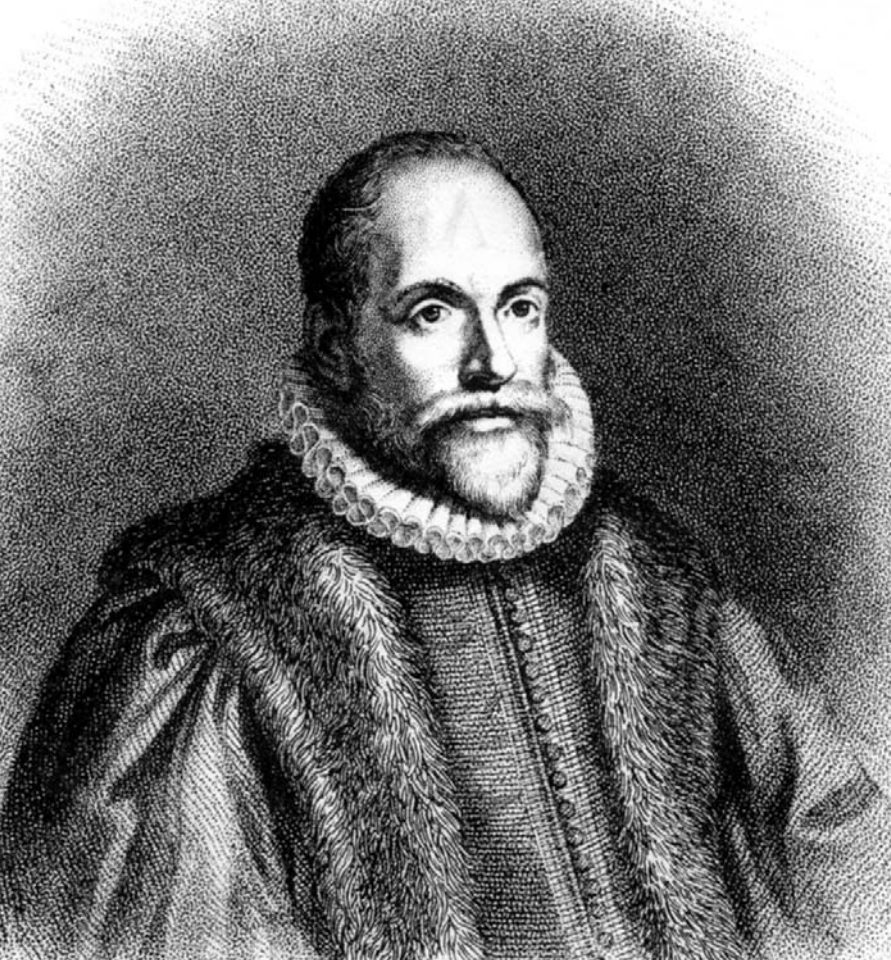
Rome  
(Roman Catholic)



Protest  
(Protestant)



# Jacobus Arminius











**Roman**



Protestant

Roman



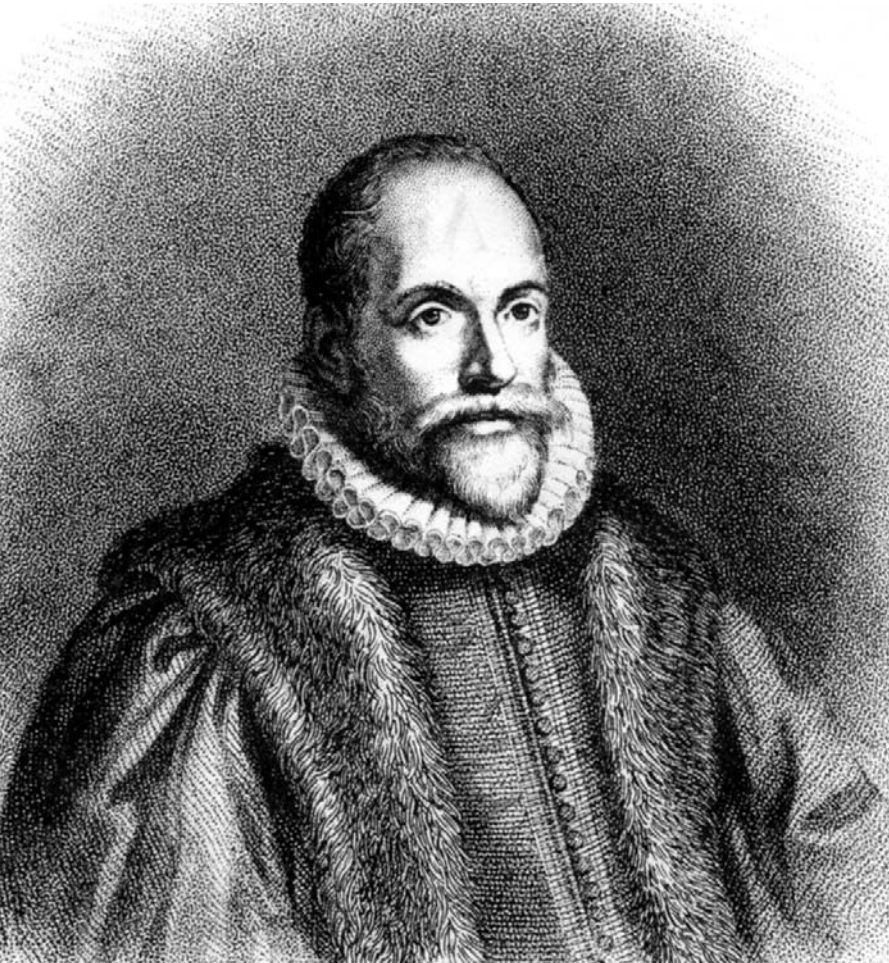
**Church  
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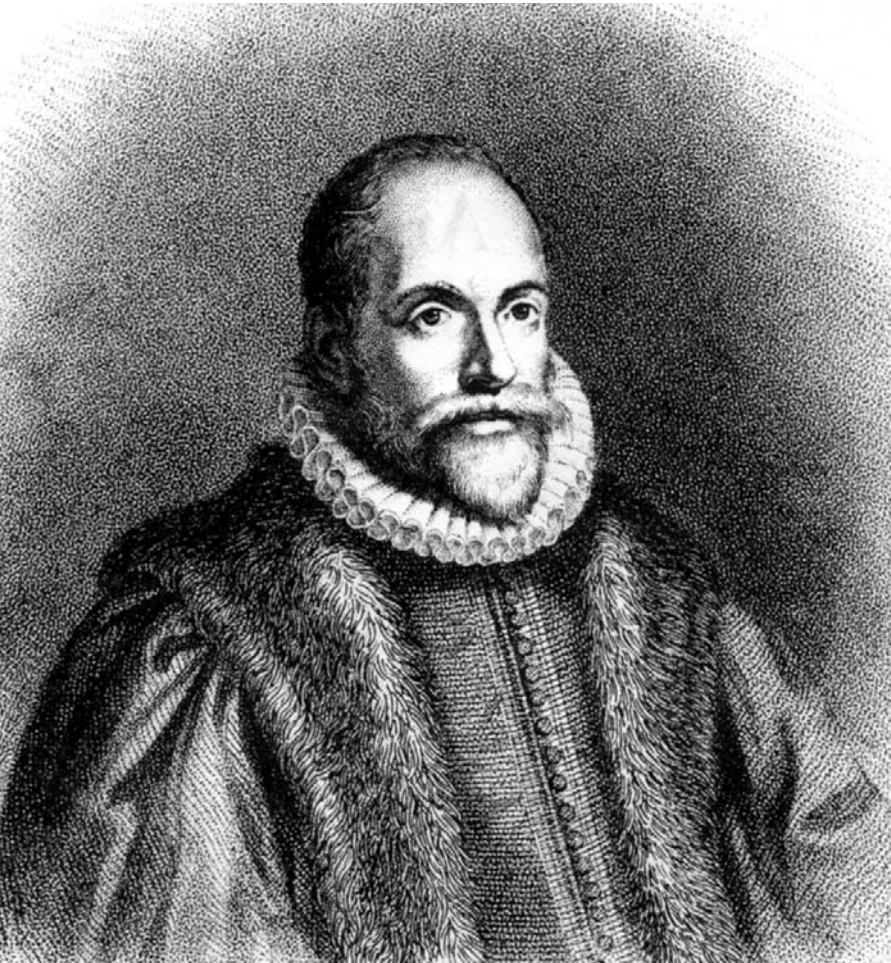
**Protestant**

**Roman**





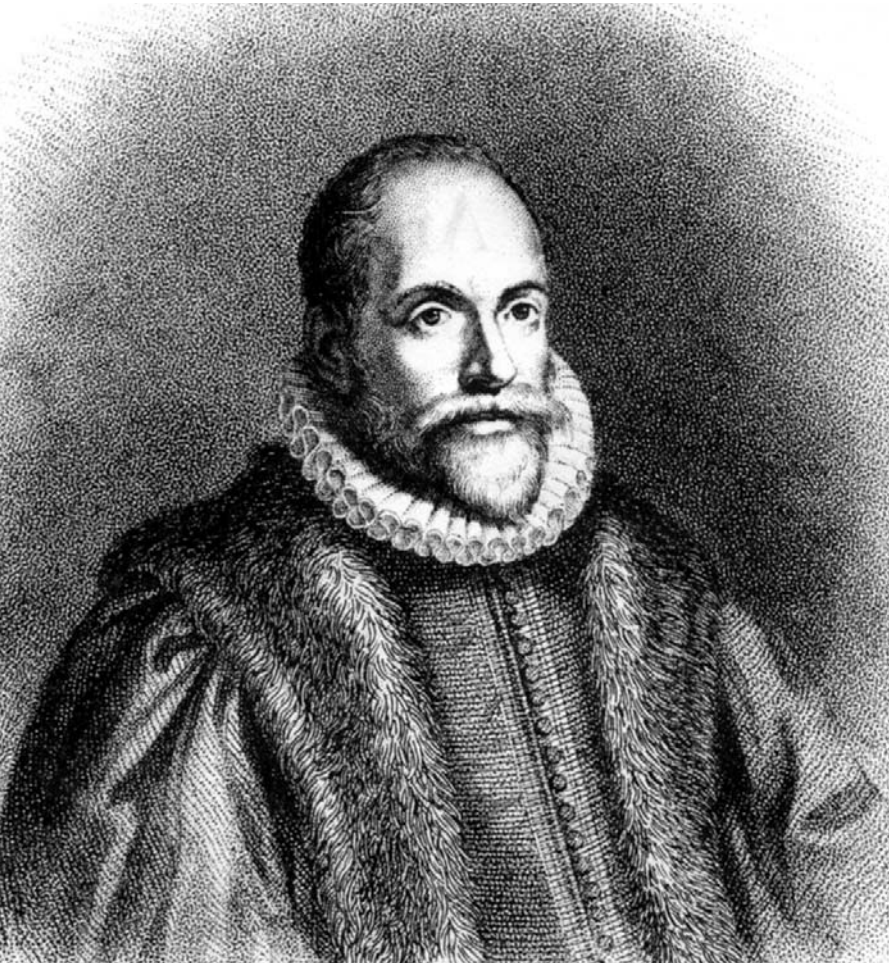
# Jacobus Arminius



# Jacobus Arminius

- University of Leiden





# Jacobus Arminius

- University of Leiden
- Calvin's Geneva Academy



Meet  
Professor  
~~Ted~~ Beza



Meet  
Professor  
~~Ted~~ Beza  
Theodore





# ZZ TOP

IN CONCERT



# ZZ TOP

IN CONCERT







Meet  
Professor  
Be7a

# Beza: Calvinism on Steroids!



# Beza: Calvinism on Steroids!



“Predestination”



# Beza: Calvinism on Steroids!



“Predestination”

“Election”

# Beza: Calvinism on Steroids!



“Predestination”

“Election”

“The Elect”

# Romans 9



# Romans 9

Not only that, but Rebekah's children had one and the same father, our father Isaac. Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad—in order that God's purpose in election might stand: not by works but by him who calls—she was told, "The older will serve the younger." Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." It does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy. For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden.

One of you will say to me: "Then why does God still blame us? For who resists his will?" But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?'" Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?

What if God, choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience the objects of his wrath—prepared for destruction? What if he did this to make the riches of his glory known to the objects of his mercy, whom he prepared in advance for glory—even us, whom he also called, not only from the Jews but also from the Gentiles? As he says in Hosea: "I will call them 'my people' who are not my people; and I will call her 'my loved one' who is not my loved one," and, "It will happen that in the very place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,' they will be called 'sons of the living God.'" (Romans 9:10-26, N.I.V.)

# Beza on Romans 9:

1

2

3

4

5



# Beza on Romans 9:

**1** God decides some go to heaven,  
others hell



# Beza on Romans 9:

1

God decides some go to heaven, others hell

2

# Beza on Romans 9:

**1** God decides some go to heaven, others hell

**2** Then God decides to Create





# Beza on Romans 9:

1

God decides some go to heaven, others hell

2

Then God decides to Create

3

# Beza on Romans 9:

1

God decides some go to heaven, others hell

2

Then God decides to Create

3

God creates  
humanity that  
can sin and fall



# Beza on Romans 9:

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God decides some go to heaven, others hell

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Then God decides to Create

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4

# Beza on Romans 9:

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God decides some go to heaven, others hell

2

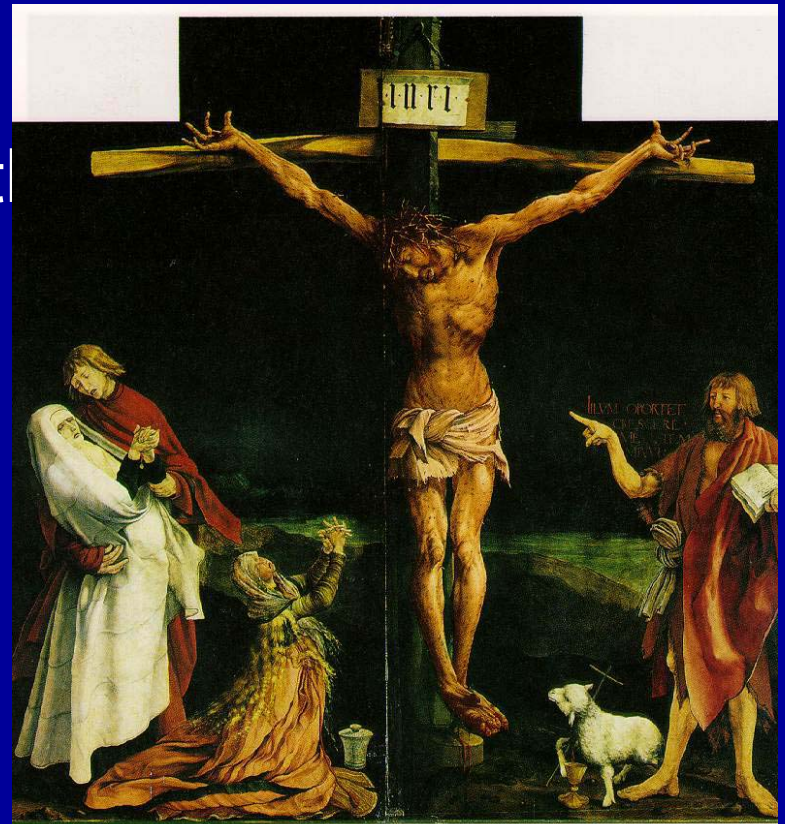
Then God decides to Create

3

God creates humanity to

4

God sends a  
redemptive  
Christ





# Beza on Romans 9:

1

God decides some go to heaven, others hell

2

Then God decides to Create

3

God creates humanity that can sin and fall

4

God sends a redemptive Christ

5

# Beza on Romans 9:

- 1 God decides some go to heaven, others hell
- 2 Then God decides to Create
- 3 God creates humanity that can sin and fall
- 4 God sends a redemptive Christ
- 5 God applies the cross to the elect

Arminius responds:

# Arminius responds:

God predestined the church,  
not the individual



Jacob = Those with faith

Jacob = Those with faith

Esau = Those without faith

# Jacob = Those with faith

Not only that, but Rebekah's children had one and the same father, our father Isaac. Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad—in order that God's purpose in election might stand: not by works but by him who calls—she was told, "The older will serve the younger." Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

# Esau = Those without faith

God's choice is based on  
man's choice

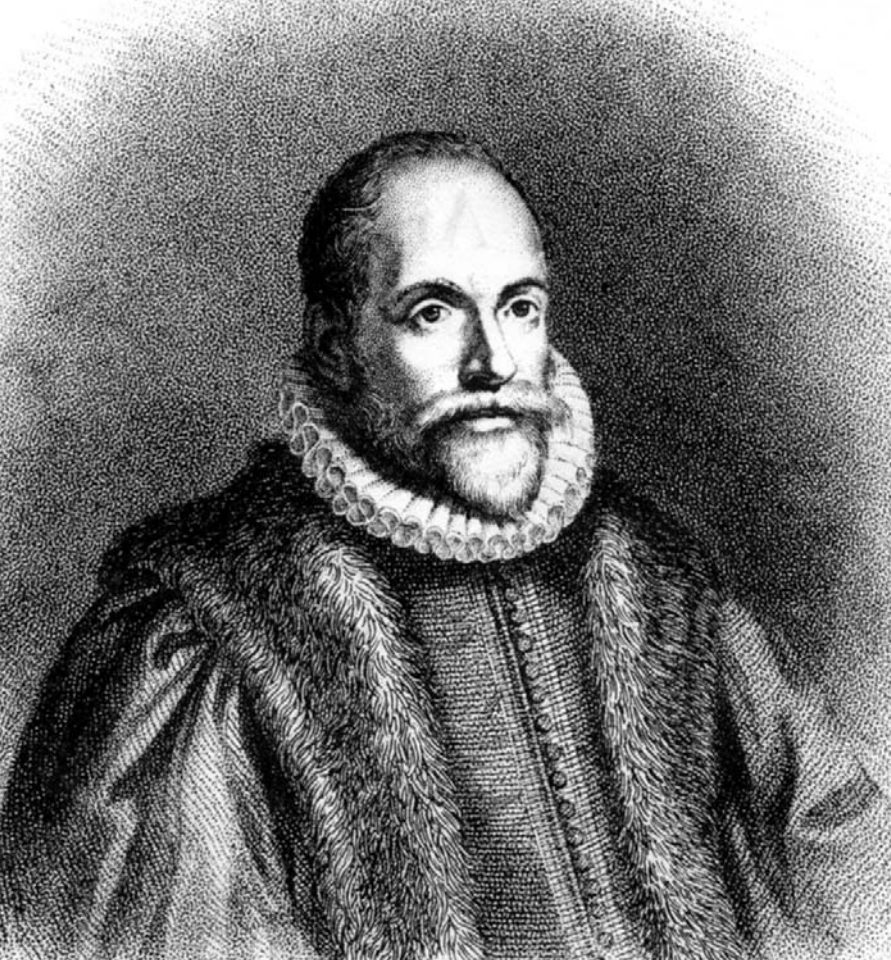
# God's choice is based on man's choice

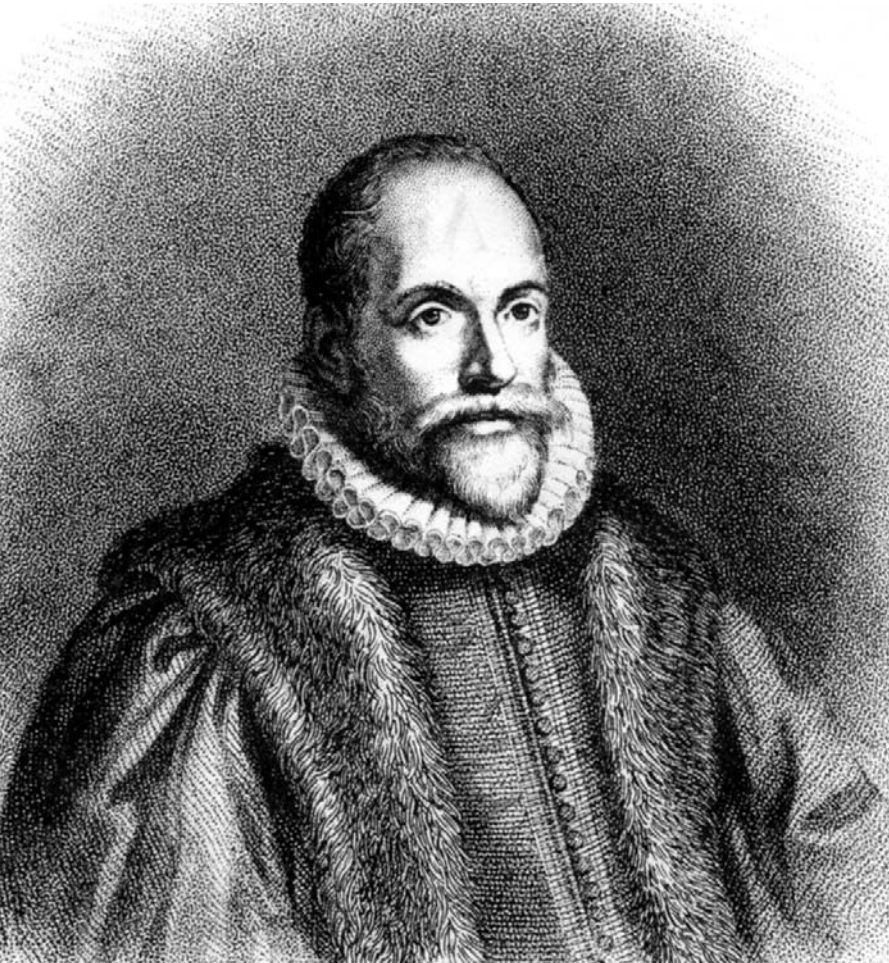
“For those God foreknew he also  
predestined to be conformed to  
the likeness of his Son”

Rom. 8:29



# Jacobus Arminius

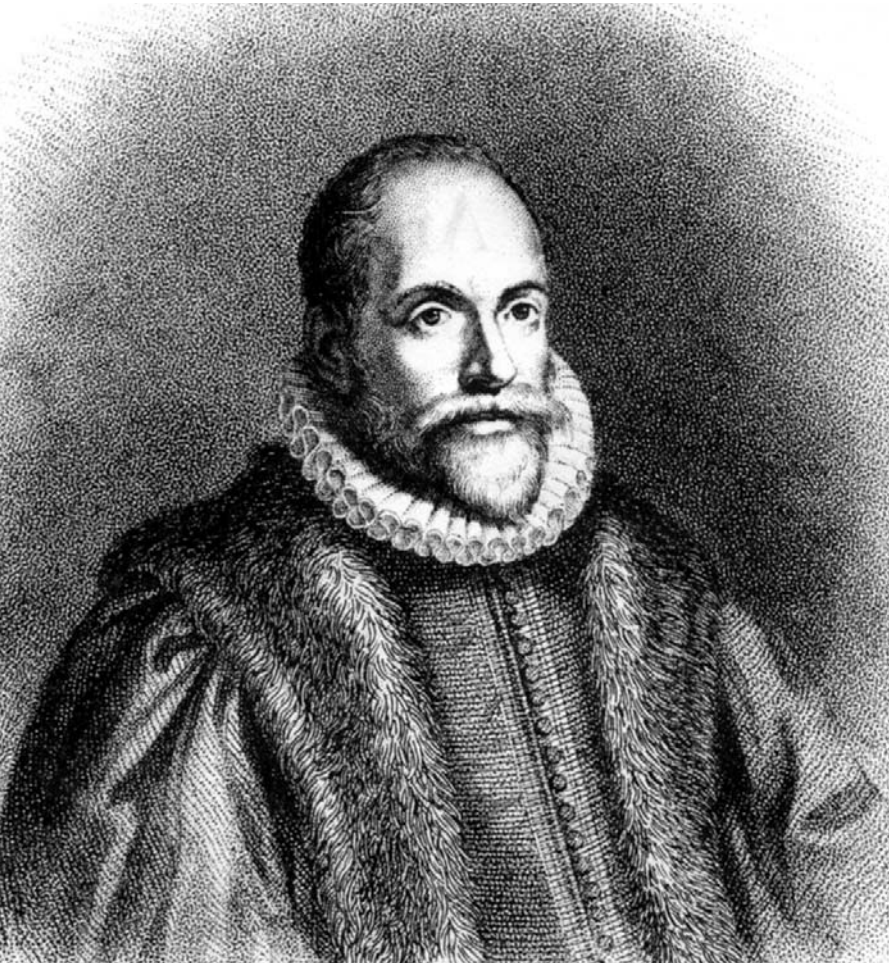




# Jacobus Arminius

- Survives challenges ... barely





# Jacobus Arminius

- Survives challenges ... barely
- Dies of TB at 49

# Remonstrants (“Arminians”)

# Remonstrants (“Arminians”)

1. Predestination of *class*, not *person*



# Remonstrants (“Arminians”)

## 1. Predestination of *class*, not *person*

“Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on him.” (Jn 3:36)

# Remonstrants (“Arminians”)

1. Predestination of *class*, not *person*
2. The atonement was intended for all mankind

# Remonstrants (“Arminians”)

1. Predestination of *class*, not *person*
2. The atonement was intended for all mankind

“And he is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.” (1 Jn 2:2)

# Remonstrants (“Arminians”)

1. Predestination of *class*, not *person*
2. The atonement was intended for all mankind
3. Man cannot exercise saving faith by himself

# Remonstrants (“Arminians”)

1. Predestination of *class*, not *person*
2. The atonement was intended for all mankind
3. Man cannot exercise saving faith by himself

“Apart from me you can do nothing.”  
(Jn 15:5)



# Remonstrants (“Arminians”)

1. Predestination of *class*, not *person*
2. The atonement was intended for all mankind
3. Man cannot exercise saving faith by himself
4. An act of God is necessary for salvation, but God does not force it

# Remonstrants (“Arminians”)

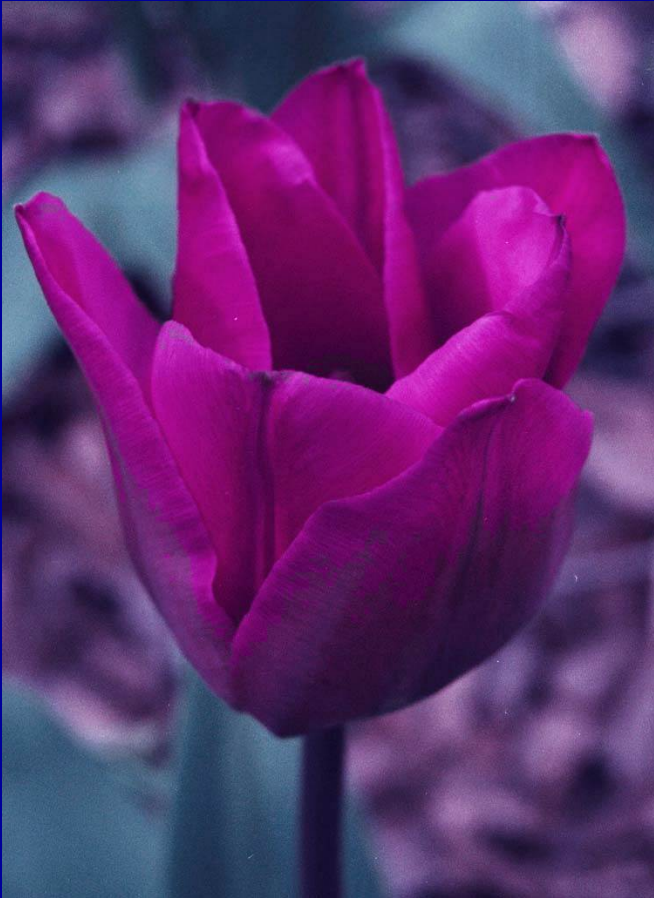
1. Predestination of *class*, not *person*
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Acts 7 “You always resist the Holy Spirit”

# Remonstrants (“Arminians”)

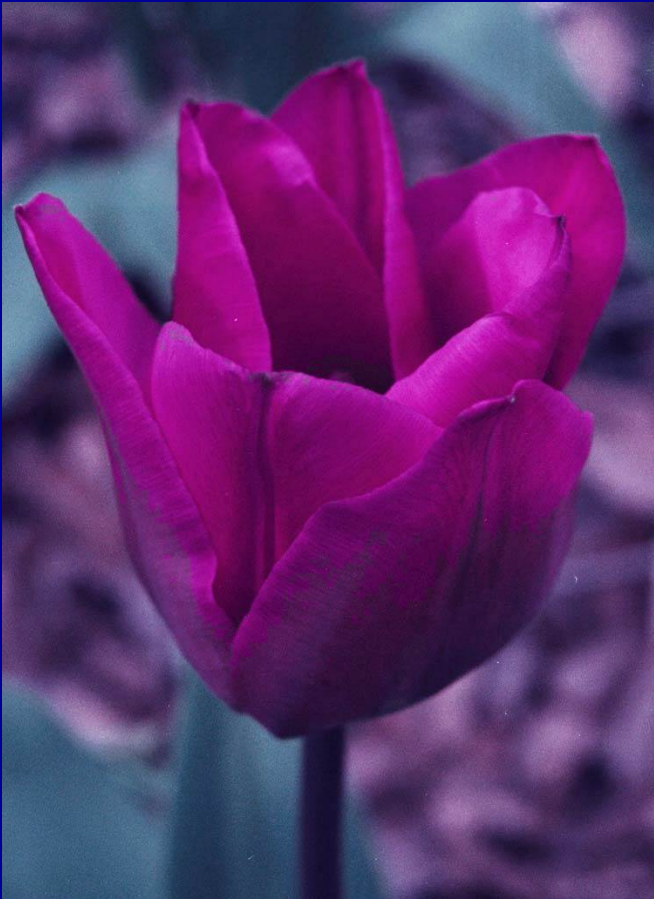
1. Predestination of *class*, not *person*
2. The atonement was intended for all mankind
3. Man cannot exercise saving faith by himself
4. An act of God is necessary for salvation, but God does not force it
5. Uncertain on falling from grace

# The response: The Synod of Dort (1618/19)



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# The response: The Synod of Dort (1618/19)



Total depravity

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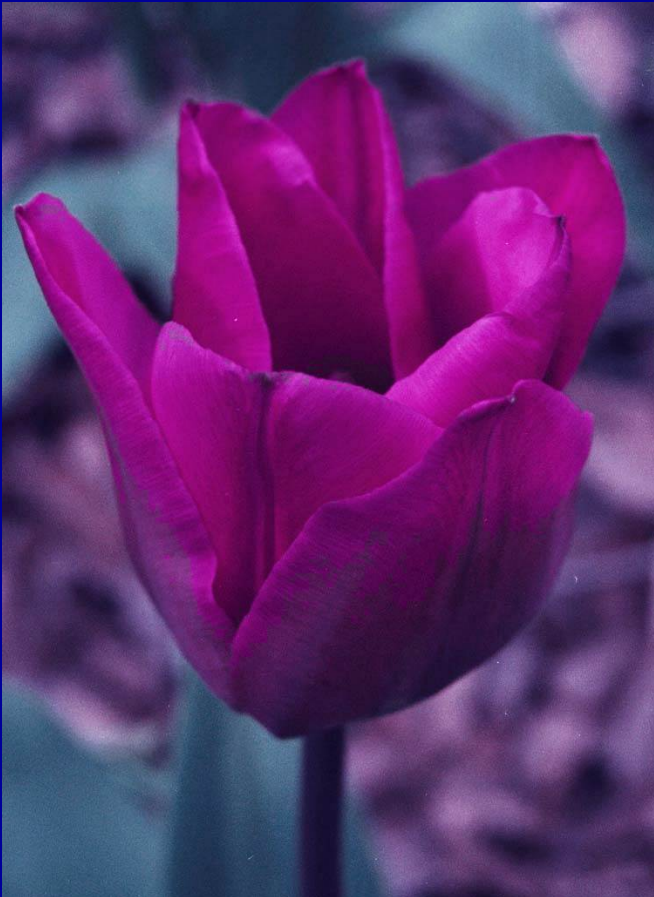
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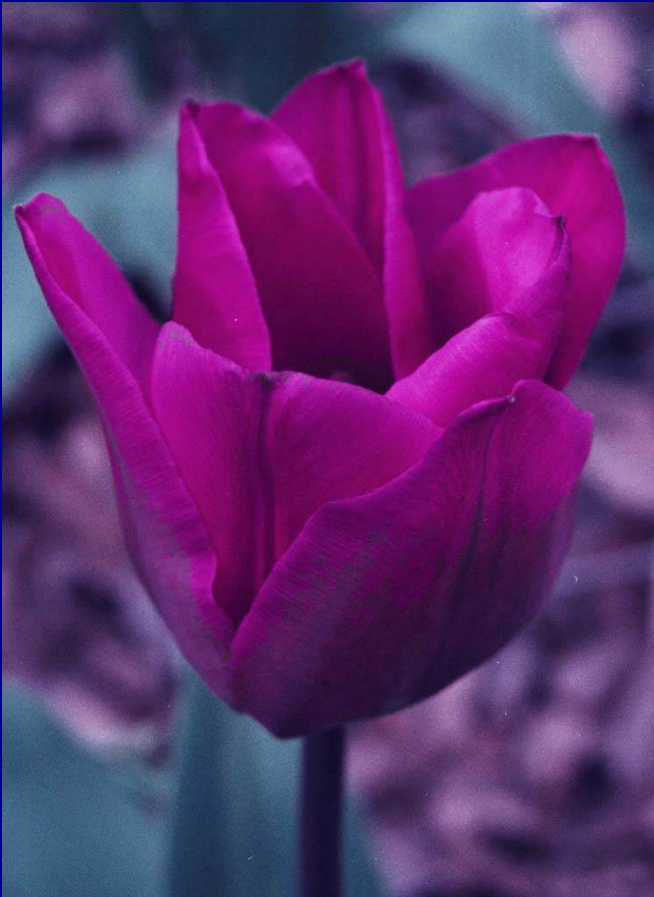


# The response: The Synod of Dort (1618/19)



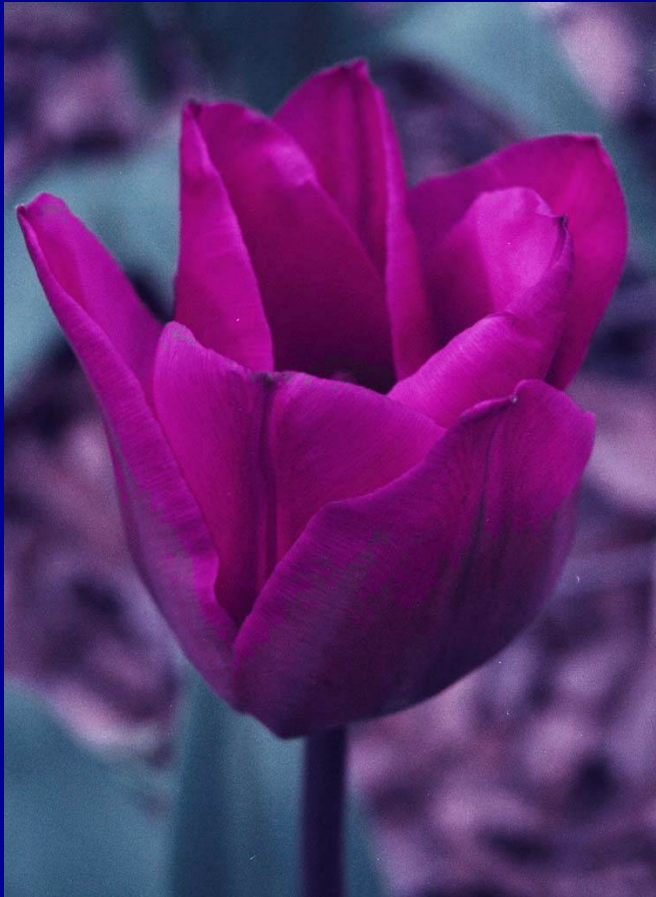
Total depravity  
Unconditional election  
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# The response: The Synod of Dort (1618/19)



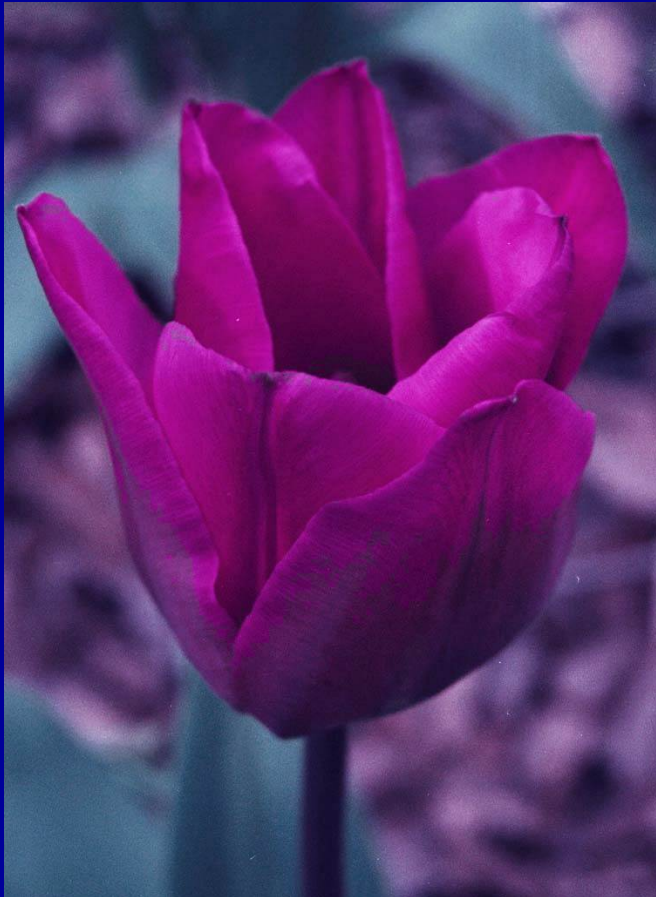
Total depravity  
Unconditional election  
Limited atonement  
I  
P

# The response: The Synod of Dort (1618/19)



Total depravity  
Unconditional election  
Limited atonement  
Irresistible grace  
P

# The response: The Synod of Dort (1618/19)



Total depravity  
Unconditional election  
Limited atonement  
Irresistible grace  
Perseverance of the saints

# Points for Home

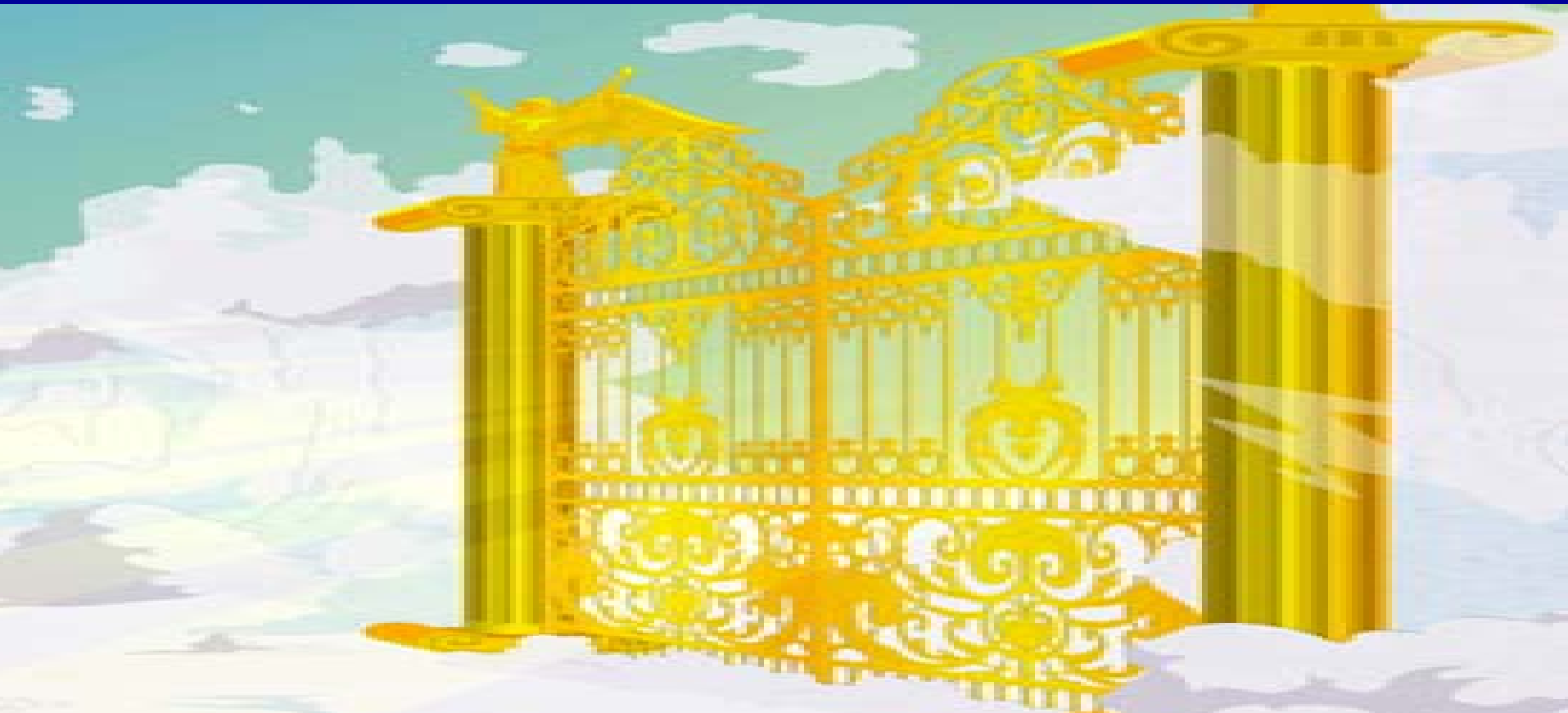
# Points for Home

- Don't lose the mystery! We can know God truly, but not fully!



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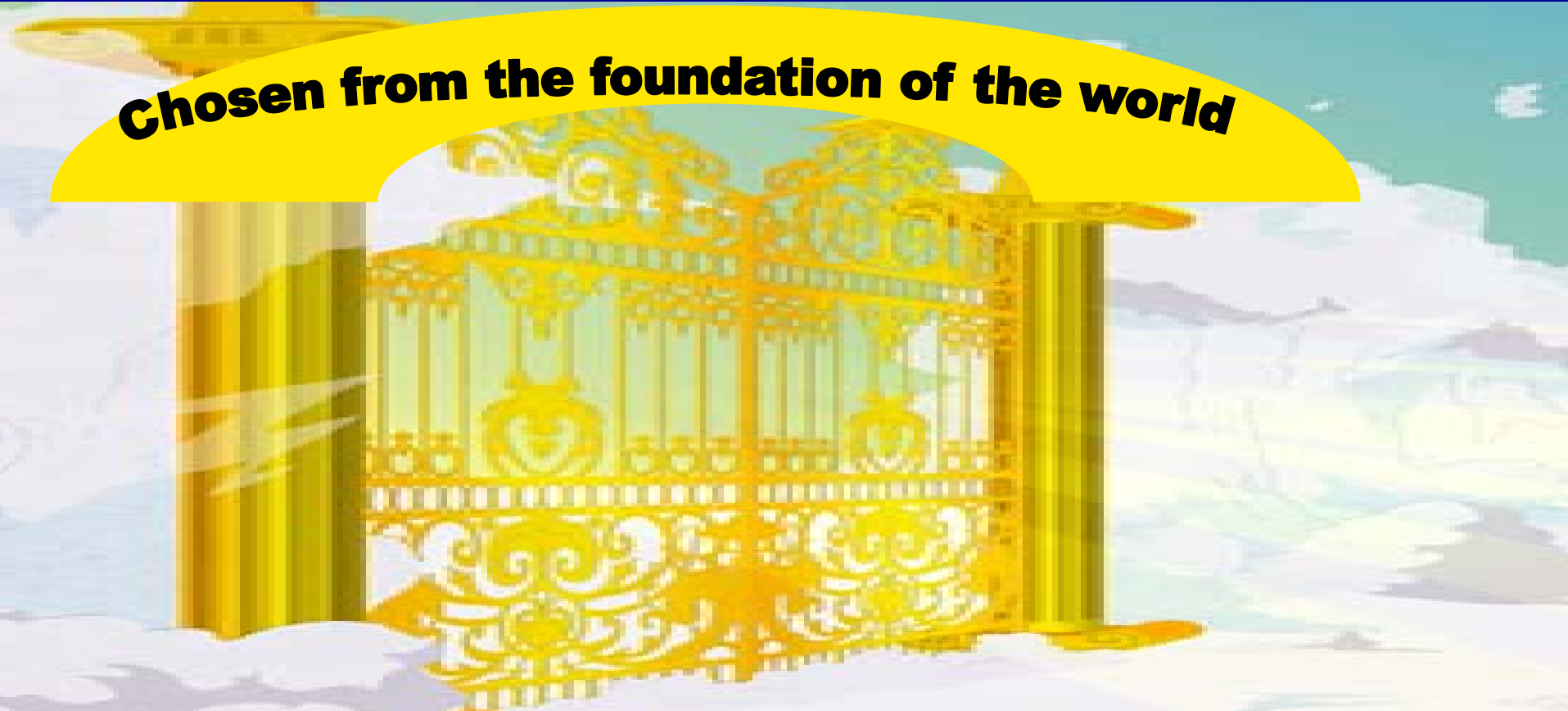
**Whosoever will may come**



# Points for Home

- Don't lose the mystery! We can know God truly, but not fully!

**Chosen from the foundation of the world**



# Points for Home

- Salvation is not rocket science!

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“For by grace you have been saved,  
through faith - and this is not from  
yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by  
works so that no one can boast.”  
(Eph 2:8-9)

# Points for Home

- Here is our blessed assurance!



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“Repent and be baptized, everyone of you, for the forgiveness of sins.”

(Acts 2:38)