

# The Doctrines of Grace

## 5. Irresistible Grace (Effectual Calling)



**How many persons are there in  
the Godhead?**

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**There are three persons in the Godhead: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.**

**Westminster Shorter Catechism, QnA 6**

**In salvation,**

**God the Father elects, and gives the sheep to the Son;**

**God the Son redeems the sheep;**

**But what about God the Holy Spirit?**

**Regarding the application of salvation to God's elect, the Arminians "... teach that God in regenerating man does not bring to bear that power of his omnipotence whereby he may powerfully and unfailingly bend man's will to faith and conversion, but that even when God has accomplished all the works of grace which he uses for man's conversion, man nevertheless can, and in actual fact often does, so resist God and the Spirit in their intent and will to regenerate him, that man completely thwarts his own rebirth; and, indeed, that it remains in his own power whether or not to be reborn."**

*Westminster Shorter Catechism:*

**“Effectual calling is the work of God’s Spirit, by which he convinces us of our sin and misery, enlightens our minds in the knowledge of Christ, and renews our wills, and so persuades and enables us to embrace Jesus Christ, freely offered to us in the gospel.”**

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**“You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist the Holy Spirit!” (Acts 7:51).**

## **The of parable of the sower:**

**The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. (Matthew 13:20, 21)**

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**When the owners of the slave girl realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities (Acts 16:19)**

**But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ (2Thes. 2:13-14)**

**In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.”  
(John 3:3)**

**Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. ...Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit (John 3:5-6)**

**Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.  
(John 1:12-13)**

**“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” (Rom.10:13-15)**

