

Origins Of The 'Free-Will' Doctrine

1) Lucifer becoming Satan

Isaiah 14:13,14 (KJV) - For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

This passage of Holy Scripture found in ISAIAH 14:13,14 explains quite clearly the reason that 'Lucifer' fell from his position in the lofty heights of heaven, and became 'Satan'. It was all because of SELF-WILL which he asserted 5 times. Evil originated from within Lucifer's heart and SELF-WILL was the essence of it. This of course is also the essence of all sinful man's 'self-will', which is all sin. Sinners throughout history have been blinded by Satan to believe that the assertion of their will is 'free-will', but this impossible, as only God has absolutely free-will. Even Lucifer's 'self-will' was within the boundaries of God's pre-ordained marked out will, yet God cannot be charged as the source of any sin or evil, whether in regards to it's origin within Lucifer's heart or man's evil heart.

2) Pelagianism

Pelagius the Monk in 410 A.D., teaches salvation by 'good works', thereby denying the doctrine of 'Original Sin'. He taught that man's will was not so corrupted by the 'Fall of Adam' into sin, that he and his posterity could not choose by their **own free will**, to be saved. In other words there was still a spark of goodness in sinner's that could enable them to choose to be saved. This doctrine was condemned by St. Augustine of Hippo, and the following councils; **Synod of Carthage - 418 A.D.**; **Council of Ephesus- 431 A.D.**

3) Semi-Pelagianism

This doctrine was also known as 'Anti-Augustinianism'. Basically this doctrine taught that 'sinful man co-operates with God in Salvation'. So in other words, there is 'synergism' or co-operation in salvation, as the sinner participates or contributes his or her part and then God contributes His part, and as a result of this assistance by the sinner, the sinner is saved. This heresy was also condemned by Augustine, but was formally condemned by the church at the; **Council of Orange - 1545-1563 A.D.**

4) Arminianism

Jacob Arminius; c. 1560-1609 A.D., was known also as Jacob Hermann, James Arminius, or James Arminius, was a Dutch Theologian and theological professor at Leyden, in Holland. Surprisingly enough, he was a student of Theodore Beza under Calvin's teachings, in Geneva, Switzerland, but rejected the doctrine of Absolute Predestination as taught by the Calvinists. Arminius taught that sinner's had a free will, thereby in agreement with the Pelagian heresy of old, that the fall of Adam into sin, was not all inclusive, which in turn led to the lie that sinners can choose to be saved at any time that they want. This of course denied the 'election of grace', as the Bible teaches. This heresy was condemned by the **Reformed Synod of Dort - in 1618-1619 A.D.**

5) Amyraldism

Moses Amyrald; c. 1637-1645 A.D., taught that God wills all men to be saved, on the condition that they believe. He was a French protestant pastor, his doctrine was designed to be Calvinistic, rather than Arminian and to provide the basis of conciliation between Reformed and Lutheran Theology. He agreed with with John Calvin on the absolute Sovereignty of God, nevertheless, he found scriptural warrant for a 'universalism in the divine decree' to salvation, averring that God wills all men to be saved. Pajonius was a disciple of Amyrald, and he denied the necessity of the Holy Spirit's work in the illumination of the sinner.