

Further Thoughts on the
Calvinist/Arminian Conflict

1. Calvinism is the orthodox interpretation and ministry of the gospel.
2. Arminianism is the heterodox interpretation and ministry of the gospel.

Per: Webster's New World College Dictionary:

Orthodox, or orthodoxy - conforming to the usual beliefs or established doctrines, as in religion, politics, etc.; approved or conventional (orthodox ideas); specif., a) conforming to the Christian faith as formulated in the early ecumenical creeds and confessions.

Heterodox, or heterodoxy - departing from or opposed to the usual beliefs or established doctrines, esp. in religion; inclining toward heresy; unorthodox.

Arminianism is a subtle, insidious form of heresy. Insidious, per dictionary above, (characterized by a craftiness not easily apparent); more dangerous than seems evident.

Craftiness is certainly not a desirable Christian trait.

A postulate for serious thought on responsibility to know and speak the truth:

Everything we believe, say, and do either serves God, or Satan. There is no middle, or neutral ground.

Erroneous doctrine, i.e. Arminianism, cannot serve God, because it is not the truth, and God will not countenance misrepresentation of His word!.

If the above premise is right; that is, if it is that simple, and that serious then whoever espouses an adulterated, compromised form of the gospel does not thereby minister for God, but serves the cause of Satan; at least more than God.

If that is not obviously true to you, then test yourself: either prove the statement wrong, or risk the consequential negative judgment of God—both now and later!

No innocence, or tolerance can ever be claimed for such abject disobedience and disservice.

If we agree that it is foolish (besides wrong on principle) to play the mega-money lottery against almost insurmountable odds; then gambling with properly interpreting God's word is the ultimate folly. Because it will never result in anything but disapproval and shameful loss of reward, if we hold wrong beliefs.

Since the contrasting definitions and classifications of Calvinism, and Arminianism are scripturally provable (No. 1 being right, and No.2 being wrong), to any honest student of the word, why would a Christian, especially a pastor, teacher, evangelist, etc. ever let himself be on the wrong side of the controversy, and unconscionably advocate and disseminate such false doctrinal principles?

Because, he cannot (will not) come to the point of accepting the hard truth revealed in the scriptures relevant to various elements of gospel theology.

So, without the conviction and courage to faithfully and accurately minister the associated word on the subject—he capitulates and modifies the literal meaning of certain doctrines, thus betraying the trust of orthodoxy in the maintenance of gospel truth; and thereby corrupting the church established by God, through the apostles, in doctrinal soundness and purity.

This disloyalty to God in such a serious sphere of responsibility permeates the contemporary church, which is so thoroughly deceived by , and committed to their heterodox beliefs that their plight is practically impossible to overcome.

In a word, its all they know, and all they want to know!

To characterize today's Christians in such a negative, objectionable way may seem harsh, and failing to recognize favorable factors in their conduct and service.

How much a major area of not following the Lord according to His will and commandment, affects one's total testimony cannot be easily stated, but it is far more serious and consequential than most of the church acts like it believes it to be.

A biblical reference may help as an example of how God may look at our disobedient ways, and to what extent our otherwise good works are commendable.

By which, I mean, what kind or degree of misconduct may render us as being generally out of His will? And, worse still, even on a continuing basis, until some appropriate correction is made.

The scriptural passage is in I Kings 3:3, which says: "And Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places."

It may well be said that many servants of the Lord today, love Him, and are faithful to much of His word, in principle and conduct—yet are advocates of an adulterated version of the gospel; to wit: free will, Arminian theology.

If indeed the idolatrous acts of Solomon were an offense against God, and a serious blight on his testimony—the same dishonoring effect applies to holding an erroneous interpretation of the major doctrine of salvation; for the terrible breach of trust that it is!

While Arminian theology may contain elements of sound doctrine, it nonetheless embodies a

contrived gospel. It is ,therefore, not God's gospel, but man's gospel! An unjust indictment? How can such a wholesale departure from scriptural revelation be anything less? And then for one to stay involved in that unholy alliance, unaffected by critical commentary essentially disproving the belief system for the erroneous philosophy that it is—is disappointing and difficult to understand by those on the right side of the issue.

What has happened to a Christian's conscience* that doesn't bring conviction to him when he has strayed from the truth (if he ever had it right), and bought a lie? He who has been given the spirit of truth and error , I John 4:6, or the innate ability to know the difference, and yet falls into the snare of the devil—and either doesn't know it, or refuses to submit himself to God for the deliverance he promises. Jas. 4:7.

*Conscience, per Webster's New College Dict.:

1. a) knowledge or sense of right and wrong, with an urge to do right; moral judgment that opposes the violation of a previously recognized ethical principle and that leads to a feeling of guilt if one violates such a principle.

Why doesn't that precious faculty work for millions of errant Christians indoctrinated with the false principles of Arminianism? Especially , since red flags should be raised when Christians read the contrasting truth in the many scriptures revealing it—which would set them straight if they really sought it.

For the cause of God, and His truth, may it still happen for many while there is time!