THE QUESTION

Did the early Christians teach Calvinism?

Asked by a THF member on May 22, 2026 · published November 9, 2026 · 13 numbered quotations · the 33 early Christian passages and 223 Bible verses we kept are listed at the back, each with a link.

Read it online: thehistoricfaith.com/early-church-questions/did-the-early-christians-teach-calvinism

The short answer *Interpretation: our reading of the passages, not their words*

No. These early writers taught that God made people free, that faith and obedience lie in our own power, and that God invites everyone and forces no one. They also said salvation is God's merciful gift, not earned. They never mention Calvinism, which came many centuries later.

LIBRARY ONLY	This study was written only from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible, never from the web. Every passage we kept from what the library gave is listed at the back, with a link to read it.
HOW IT WAS MADE	Compiled by machine learning from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible only. Every quotation was matched word for word against our stored text. Not yet reviewed by The Historic Faith.
SHARING WITH AN AI?	Every quotation here comes from The Historic Faith's library. If you paste this study into an AI, anything it adds beyond these pages comes from that AI, not from us.

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POINT 1 OF 7

God made man free from the beginning

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Theophilus says God made man free and in charge of his own choices. Irenaeus adds that people have had free will from the start, because they were made in the likeness of God, who is also free.

1 “For God made man free, with power over himself.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Theophilus of Antioch,** *To Autolycus* 27 (c. 169–183 AD) **Source 6, page 6** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

2 “But because humans have free will from the beginning, and God has free will, in whose likeness humans were created, advice is always given to them to hold on to the good, which is achieved through obedience to God.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book IV* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 8, page 6** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 2 OF 7

Even faith is a free response

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Irenaeus says God left man free not only in his works but also in believing. He points to Christ's words over Jerusalem, who would not be gathered, as a sign that people can refuse Him.

3 “And not merely in works, but also in faith, God has preserved the will of man as free and under his own control, saying, "According to your faith, let it be unto you;" thus showing that there is a faith especially belonging to man, since he has an opinion uniquely his own.”

later in the same passage

“Now, all such expressions demonstrate that man is in his own power with respect to faith.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book IV* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 9, page 6** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

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POINT 3 OF 7

Our lives are not fixed by fate

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Justin says that if people had no power to choose good or avoid evil, they could not be blamed or praised. Origen says living rightly or not is our own doing, not forced on us from outside.

4 “Furthermore, if humanity did not have the power to avoid evil and choose good through free will, they would not be responsible for their actions.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Justin Martyr,** *First Apology* (c. 130–165 AD) **Source 4, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

5 “And now, to confirm by the authority of Scripture what reason has concluded—namely, that whether we live rightly or not is our own doing, and that we are not compelled either by causes that come to us from outside or, as some think, by the presence of fate—we present the testimony of the prophet Micah in these words: "If it has been announced to you, O man, what is good, or what the Lord requires of you, except that you should do justice, and love mercy, and be ready to walk with the Lord your God."”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Origen,** *De Principiis (On First Principles)* 1 (c. 215–254 AD) **Source 20, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 4 OF 7

Christ invites all and forces no one

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Arnobius answers critics who asked why Christ did not save everyone. He says Christ invites everyone alike and leaves the choice to each person. Clement of Rome says God wants all His beloved to share in repentance.

6 “I reply, does He not free everyone alike when He invites everyone alike?”

later in the same passage

“God forces no one and terrifies no one with overwhelming fear.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Arnobius,** *Against the Heathen* 2 (c. 290–330 AD) **Source 29, page 8** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

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7 “Desiring, therefore, that all His beloved should be partakers of repentance, He has, by His almighty will, established these declarations.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Rome,** *First Epistle to the Corinthians* **Source 33, page 8** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 5 OF 7

God gives the power; we direct it

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Origen explains that the power to will comes from God, but how we use it is up to us. Hippolytus argues that God gave a law because man can will or refuse; a law would make no sense otherwise.

8 “So what the apostle says is that we do indeed receive the power of willing, but we misuse the will either to good or evil desires.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Origen,** *De Principiis (On First Principles)* 1 (c. 215–254 AD) **Source 23, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

9 “For if man did not have the power to will and not to will, why should a law be established?”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Hippolytus,** *Refutation of All Heresies* 29 (c. 200–236 AD) **Source 19, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 6 OF 7

Those who fall away choose it

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Cyprian notes that Christ did not force the disciples who left Him; each person freely chooses life or death. Tertullian says God set good and evil before us, so a person who will not obey is refusing, not unable.

10 “Clearly, He was observing the law by which a man, left to his own liberty and established in his own choice, desires for himself either death or salvation.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Cyprian,** *Epistles* (c. 248–258 AD) **Source 25, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

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11 “If you cannot, because you will not—for that you can if you will He has shown, because He has proposed each to your free will—you ought to depart from Him whose will you do not.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *On Monogamy* 14 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 18, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 7 OF 7

Salvation is still God's gift of mercy

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Free will does not mean earning salvation. The long version of Ignatius says no one could stand if God paid us by our works. Theophilus says the life man lost, God now gives as a gift out of love, to those who obey.

12 “For if He were to reward us according to our works, we would cease to exist.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Ignatius of Antioch,** *Epistle to the Magnesians* (c. 98–117 AD) **Source 3, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

13 “So then, what man brought on himself through carelessness and disobedience, God now grants to him as a gift through His own love for mankind and pity, when men obey Him.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Theophilus of Antioch,** *To Autolycus* 27 (c. 169–183 AD) **Source 6, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

THE LIMITS

What these passages don’t tell us

- These writers lived long before Calvinism and do not discuss it by name.
- The passages do not explain in detail how God's choosing of His people fits with each person's free choice.
- A word-for-word match shows that a quotation really is in our text. It does not show that our reading of it is right, or who wrote each work.

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WHERE EVERY QUOTE CAME FROM

The Sources

The 33 early Christian passages and 223 Bible verses we kept for this question (repeats and weak or off-topic search hits were left out): early Christian passages first (sources 1–33, grouped by writer, earliest first), then Bible verses in The Faith Once Delivered Bible (sources 34–162, in Bible order), then 94 more verses THF links to these passages, by reference. **Quote 1, page 2** beside a source shows where the study quotes it. Passages are in THF's updated English unless marked "1885 English" (the Roberts–Donaldson translation, public domain). "… [continues online]" marks a passage the library gave only in part. **On paper?** At **thehistoricfaith.com**, Bible verses are in the **Audio Bible** and early Christian writings in the **Library** (search for the title).

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITERS *33 passages from 17 writers*

Clement of Rome, *c. 88–99 AD · source 1*

1 *Second Epistle* 14 (1885 English) "7:11 So, then, let us elect to belong to the church of life, that we may be saved… [continues online] **read ›**

Ignatius of Antioch, *c. 98–117 AD · sources 2–3*

2 *Epistle to the Magnesians* (on point 6) of God's precepts, but death as the result of disobedience, and everyone, according to the choice they make, shall go to their own place, let us flee from death… [continues online] **read ›**

3 *Epistle to the Magnesians* **Quote 12, page 5** "in his seed all those have been blessed who were ordained to eternal life in Christ… [continues online] **read ›**

Justin Martyr, *c. 130–165 AD · sources 4–5*

4 *First Apology* **Quote 4, page 3** for their actions. We demonstrate that both virtuous and flawed actions are made by free choice. We observe people switching between good and bad behaviors. If it were destined for… [continues online] **read ›**

5 *First Apology* (1885 English) "if ye be willing and obey Me, ye shall eat the good of the land… [continues online] **read ›**

Theophilus of Antioch, *c. 169–183 AD · sources 6–7*

6 *To Autolycus* 27 (1885 English) **Quotes 1, 13, pages 2, 5** "obeying the will of God, he who desires is able to procure for himself life everlasting… [continues online] **read ›**

7 *To Autolycus* 14 (on point 2) "that happen as they were predicted, I do not disbelieve, but I believe, obeying God. If you are willing, you also should submit to Him and believe Him. Otherwise, if… [continues online] **read ›**

Irenaeus, *c. 175–202 AD · sources 8–11*

8 *Against Heresies: Book IV* (1885 English) **Quote 2, page 2** "because man is possessed of free will from the beginning, and God is possessed of free will, in whose likeness man was created, advice is always given to him to… [continues online] **read ›**

9 *Against Heresies: Book IV* (1885 English) **Quote 3, page 2** "for this reason, "he that believeth in Him has eternal life while he who believeth not the Son hath not eternal life, but the wrath of God shall remain upon… [continues online] **read ›**

10 *Against Heresies: Book IV* (1885 English) "therefore Moses says to them again: "Choose life, that thou mayest live, and thy seed, to love the thy God, to hear His voice, to cleave unto Him… [continues online] **read ›**

11 *Against Heresies: Book IV* have gained the knowledge of good and evil. It is good to obey God, to believe in Him, and to keep His commandments, and this is the true life for… [continues online] **read ›**

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Clement of Alexandria, *c. 190–215 AD · sources 12–17*

12 *Exhortation to the Heathen* 10 (1885 English) “30:15 The Lord tries you, that you may choose life… [continues online] **read ›**

13 *Stromata* 4.6 image? There are then two things proceeding from the truth, one root lying beneath both. The choice, however, is not equal, or rather, the difference that is in the choice… [continues online] **read ›**

14 *Stromata* 5.1 (1885 English) “if he was elect, their hypothesis is done away with, inasmuch as even previous to the coming of the Lord an election was found, and that saved: For it was… [continues online] **read ›**

15 *Stromata* 6.6 “behold, it is said, "I have set before your face death and life, that you may choose life… [continues online] **read ›**

16 *Stromata* 1.18 (on point 2) to persuasion, and believing. But those who would not believe, by separating themselves from the voluntary adherence of those who obeyed, were proved to be without understanding, unbelievers, and fools… [continues online] **read ›**

17 *Fragments* 1 (1885 English) “Peter 2:9 That we are a chosen race by the election of God is abundantly clear… [continues online] **read ›**

Tertullian, *c. 196–220 AD · source 18*

18 *On Monogamy* 14 **Quote 11, page 5** “that which is good." If you cannot, because you will not—for that you can if you will He has shown, because He has proposed each to your free will… [continues online] **read ›**

Hippolytus, *c. 200–236 AD · source 19*

19 *Refutation of All Heresies* 29 (1885 English) **Quote 9, page 4** “if man did not possess the power to will and not to will, why should a law be established… [continues online] **read ›**

Origen, *c. 215–254 AD · sources 20–23*

20 *De Principiis (On First Principles)* 1 (1885 English) **Quote 5, page 3** “the words addressed to those who are on His right hand, Come unto Me, all you blessed of My Father, etc… [continues online] **read ›**

21 *De Principiis (On First Principles)* 1 (on point 3) “also: “I have placed before your face the way of life, and the way of death: choose what is good, and walk in it… [continues online] **read ›**

22 *Commentary on Matthew* 12 at the same time, notice this also: at the beginning it is said, "Whosoever wills," but afterward, "Whoever shall lose," in Matthew 16:25. If, then, we wish it to… [continues online] **read ›**

23 *De Principiis (On First Principles)* 1 **Quote 8, page 4** this, the next point was that willing and doing are from God. Our opponents argue that if willing is from God, and if doing is from Him, or if, whether… [continues online] **read ›**

Dionysius of Alexandria, *c. 232–265 AD · source 24*

24 *Exegetical Fragments* 2 “Therefore, with good reason, the objects of such anxious care are only vanity and the spirit’s choice. Now by this name, spirit, he means the soul. For choice is… [continues online] **read ›**

Cyprian, *c. 248–258 AD · source 25*

25 *Epistles* (1885 English) **Quote 10, page 4** “6:67 manifestly observing the law whereby a man left to his own liberty, and established in his own choice, himself desires for himself either death or salvation… [continues online] **read ›**

Apostolic Constitutions, *c. 250–380 AD · sources 26–27*

26 *Apostolic Constitutions* believing in Him you shall live, but by disbelieving you shall be… [continues online] **read ›**

27 *Apostolic Constitutions* (1885 English) “added, Choose life, that you may live… [continues online] **read ›**

Methodius, *c. 270–311 AD · source 28*

28 *Concerning Free Will* 1 (1885 English; on point 1) “if the earth, at the bidding of the Creator, brought forth the other animals endowed with life, much rather did the dust which God took from the earth receive a… [continues online] **read ›**

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Arnobius, *c. 290–330 AD · source 29*

29 *Against the Heathen* 2 **Quote 6, page 3** "inviting you, when His only duty is to make your enjoyment of His bounty depend on your own free choice? Plato says that God does not cause anyone to choose… [continues online] **read ›**

Lactantius, *c. 290–320 AD · sources 30–31*

30 *Divine Institutes* 24 (on point 4) for life ought to remove every kind of excuse, so that he may place on men the necessity of obedience, not by force, but by shame, and yet still leave… [continues online] **read ›**

31 *Divine Institutes* 4 (on point 3) "and each one goes wherever its desire leads it. Therefore, the movement of the stars is not voluntary, but necessary, because they obey the laws appointed for them. But when… [continues online] **read ›**

Alexander of Alexandria, *c. 313–328 AD · source 32*

32 *Epistles on the Arian Heresy* 1 (1885 English; on point 1) "Natural will is the free faculty of every intelligent nature as having nothing involuntary which is in respect of its essence" **read ›**

Clement of Rome · *source 33*

33 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* (1885 English) **Quote 7, page 4** "if ye be willing and obey Me, ye shall eat the good of the land… [continues online] **read ›**

THE BIBLE *129 verses, The Faith Once Delivered Bible (Old Testament from the Septuagint), in Bible order*

34 **Genesis 49:18** waiting for the salvation of the Lord. **read ›**

35 **Leviticus 24:17** Whoever strikes a human being so that he dies, let him surely be put to death. **read ›**

36 **Leviticus 24:18** Whoever strikes a beast so that it dies shall repay life for life. **read ›**

37 **Leviticus 24:21** Whoever strikes a man so that he dies, let him surely be put to death. **read ›**

38 **Deuteronomy 7:6** For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; and the Lord your God preferred you to be a special people to him above all the nations that are on the face of the earth. **read ›**

39 **Deuteronomy 10:15** Yet the Lord preferred your fathers, to love them, and he chose their seed after them—you—above all the nations, as at this day. **read ›**

40 **Deuteronomy 17:15** you shall surely set over yourself the ruler whom the Lord God chooses. From among your brothers you shall set a ruler over yourself; you may not set a foreign man over yourself, because he is not your brother. **read ›**

41 **Deuteronomy 26:17** You have chosen God today to be your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to keep the ordinances and the judgments, and to obey his voice. **read ›**

42 **Deuteronomy 26:18** And the Lord has chosen you today to be a special people to him, as he said, to keep his commandments, **read ›**

43 **Deuteronomy 30:15** Behold, I have set before your face today life and death, good and evil. **read ›**

44 **Deuteronomy 30:16** If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, to love the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, and to keep his ordinances and his judgments, then you shall live and be many, and the Lord your God shall bless you in all the land that you are entering to inherit. **read ›**

45 **Deuteronomy 30:19** I call heaven and earth to witness against you today: I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Choose life, that you may live, you and your seed, **read ›**

46 **Deuteronomy 30:20** to love the Lord your God, to obey his voice, and to hold fast to him; for this is your life and the length of your days, to dwell on the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them. **read ›**

47 **Joshua 24:15** But if it does not please you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve, whether the gods of your fathers who were beyond the river, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But I and my house will serve the Lord, for he is holy." **read ›**

48 **1 Samuel 14:40** He said to all the men of Israel, "You shall be in servitude, and I and Jonathan my son will be in servitude." And the people said to Saul, "Do what is good in your sight." **read ›**

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49 **2 Samuel 22:45** Foreign sons lied to me; at the hearing of the ear they listened to me. **read ›**

50 **2 Samuel 24:12** ‘Thus says the Lord: I lay three things on you; choose one of them for yourself, and I will do it to you.’” **read ›**

51 **1 Kings 12:4** “Your father made our yoke heavy; now lighten for us the hard service of your father and his heavy yoke that he put on us, and we will serve you.” **read ›**

52 **1 Chronicles 21:11** So Gad came to David and said to him, “Thus says the Lord: Choose for yourself **read ›**

53 **1 Chronicles 28:4** Yet the Lord God of Israel chose me out of all my father’s house to be king over Israel forever; and in Judah he chose the kingship, and from the house of Judah the house of my father; and among the sons of my father he took pleasure in me, to make me king over all Israel. **read ›**

54 **2 Chronicles 6:6** But I chose Jerusalem, that my name might be there, and I chose David to be over my people Israel.’ **read ›**

55 **Psalms 5:1** For the end, concerning her who inherits, a Psalm of David. **read ›**

56 **Psalms 47:4** He has chosen his inheritance for us, the beauty of Jacob, which he loved. Pause. (Septuagint Psalm 46:5 (Psalm 47:4 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

57 **Psalms 135:4** For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself, Israel as his own special possession. (Septuagint Psalm 134:4 (Psalm 135:4 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

58 **Proverbs 6:23** For the commandment of the law is a lamp and a light, a way of life, and correction and instruction, **read ›**

59 **Ecclesiastes 1:3** What advantage does a man have in all his labor at which he labors under the sun? **read ›**

60 **Ecclesiastes 7:23** All these things I tested by wisdom. I said, “I will become wise”; but it was far from me. **read ›**

61 **Ecclesiastes 8:8** There is no man who has power over the spirit, to hold back the spirit; and there is no power in the day of death; and there is no discharge in the day of war; and ungodliness will not save the one who belongs to it. **read ›**

62 **Isaiah 1:4** Woe, sinful nation, a people full of sins, an evil seed, lawless sons! You have forsaken the Lord, and provoked the Holy One of Israel to anger. **read ›**

63 **Isaiah 1:19** And if you are willing, and listen to me, you shall eat the good things of the land. **read ›**

64 **Isaiah 3:2** the giant and the mighty man, and the man of war, and the judge, and the prophet, and the fortune-teller, and the elder, **read ›**

65 **Isaiah 3:17** God will also humble the leading daughters of Zion, and the Lord will uncover their form in that day; **read ›**

66 **Isaiah 5:13** Therefore my people have become captives, because they do not know the Lord; and there has been a multitude of dead because of hunger and thirst for water. **read ›**

67 **Isaiah 5:16** But the Lord of hosts shall be exalted in judgment, and the holy God shall be glorified in righteousness. **read ›**

68 **Isaiah 6:4** And the beam above the door was lifted up at the voice with which they cried, and the house was filled with smoke. **read ›**

69 **Isaiah 7:19** and they shall all come into the valleys of the land, and into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves, and into every crevice. **read ›**

70 **Isaiah 7:23** And it shall be in that day that every place where there are a thousand vines worth a thousand shekels shall become barren land and thorns. **read ›**

71 **Isaiah 8:5** And the Lord spoke to me yet again: **read ›**

72 **Isaiah 12:5** Sing hymns to the name of the Lord, for he has done lofty things; proclaim these things in all the earth. **read ›**

73 **Isaiah 15:3** Wrap yourselves in sackcloth in her squares, and lament on her rooftops and in her lanes; all of you, wail with weeping. **read ›**

74 **Jeremiah 21:8** And to this people you shall say: Thus says the Lord: Behold, I have set before you the way of life and the way of death. **read ›**

75 **Jeremiah 46:5** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

76 **Daniel 11:31** And seeds from him shall arise, and they shall profane the sanctuary of might, and remove the continual offering, and set up an abomination made desolate. **read ›**

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77 **Amos 2:11** And I took some of your sons for prophets, and some of your young men for consecration. Are these things not so, O children of Israel? says the Lord. **read ›**

78 **Amos 3:9** Proclaim it to the regions among the Assyrians, and to the regions of Egypt, and say, “Gather yourselves on the mountain of Samaria, and see the many marvels in her midst, and the oppression that is in her.” **read ›**

79 **Amos 9:7** Are you not like the sons of the Ethiopians to me, O children of Israel? says the Lord. Did I not bring Israel up out of the land of Egypt, and the Philistines out of Cappadocia, and the Syrians out of the pit? **read ›**

80 **1 Esdras 8:94** as has been decided by you and by all who obey the law of the Lord. **read ›**

81 **Tobit 5:1** And Tobias answered and said to him, “Father, I will do all that you have commanded me. **read ›**

82 **Tobit 12:10** but those who sin are enemies of their own life. **read ›**

83 **Wisdom of Solomon 2:11** But let our strength be the law of righteousness, for what is weak proves useless. **read ›**

84 **Wisdom of Solomon 3:9** Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will stay with him in love, for grace and mercy are for his chosen ones. **read ›**

85 **Wisdom of Solomon 9:7** You chose me to be king of your people, and judge of your sons and daughters. **read ›**

86 **Wisdom of Solomon 11:21** For great strength is always with you, and who will withstand the might of your arm? **read ›**

87 **Wisdom of Solomon 12:18** But you, being master of strength, judge with gentleness, and govern us with great restraint; for power is with you whenever you will. **read ›**

88 **Wisdom of Solomon 19:1** But merciless wrath pressed upon the ungodly to the end; for he knew beforehand even what they would do: **read ›**

89 **Wisdom of Sirach 10:25** Free men will serve a wise household servant, and a man of knowledge will not grumble. **read ›**

90 **Wisdom of Sirach 15:15** If you are willing, you will keep the commandments, and to act faithfully is of your own good will. **read ›**

91 **Wisdom of Sirach 15:16** He has set fire and water before you; you will stretch out your hand to whichever you wish. **read ›**

92 **Wisdom of Sirach 15:17** Before men are life and death, and whichever he chooses will be given to him. **read ›**

93 **Wisdom of Sirach 19:28** And if for lack of strength he is hindered from sinning, yet if he finds an opportunity, he will do harm. **read ›**

94 **Wisdom of Sirach 45:4** In his faithfulness and meekness he sanctified him; he chose him out of all flesh. **read ›**

95 **1 Maccabees 3:60** But whatever the will in heaven may be, that he will do.” **read ›**

96 **1 Maccabees 6:23** We were willing to serve your father, and to live by what he said, and to follow his statutes. **read ›**

97 **1 Maccabees 9:30** Now therefore we have chosen you today to be our ruler and leader in his place, to fight our battle.” **read ›**

98 **2 Maccabees 1:3** May he give you all a heart to worship him and to do his will with a great heart and a willing soul. **read ›**

99 **2 Maccabees 7:23** Therefore the Creator of the world, who formed the origin of man and devised the origin of all things, will in his mercy give breath and life back to you again, since you now disregard yourselves for the sake of his laws.” **read ›**

100 **2 Maccabees 12:45** And then, looking to the most splendid reward laid up for those who fall asleep in godliness—a holy and godly thought—he therefore made atonement for the dead, that they might be released from their sin. **read ›**

101 **4 Maccabees 1:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

102 **4 Maccabees 3:2** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

103 **4 Maccabees 3:17** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

104 **4 Maccabees 5:13** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

105 **4 Maccabees 5:16** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

106 **4 Maccabees 6:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

107 **4 Maccabees 6:34** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

108 **4 Maccabees 7:19** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

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109 **4 Maccabees 7:23** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
110 **4 Maccabees 8:5** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
111 **4 Maccabees 12:5** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
112 **4 Maccabees 15:3** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
113 **1 Enoch 1:1** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
114 **1 Enoch 1:3** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
115 **1 Enoch 37:5** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
116 **1 Enoch 48:6** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
117 **1 Enoch 51:2** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
118 **1 Enoch 58:2** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
119 **1 Enoch 59:2** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
120 **1 Enoch 61:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
121 **1 Enoch 62:7** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
122 **1 Enoch 62:8** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
123 **1 Enoch 62:13** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
124 **1 Enoch 93:10** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
125 **1 Enoch 94:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
126 **Matthew 16:25** For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, and whoever will lose his life for my sake will find it. **read ›**
127 **Mark 8:35** For whoever wants to save his life will lose it; and whoever will lose his life for my sake and the sake of the gospel will save it. **read ›**
128 **Luke 9:24** For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever will lose his life for my sake will save it. **read ›**
129 **Luke 17:33** Whoever seeks to save his life shall lose it, and whoever loses it shall preserve it. **read ›**
130 **John 3:15** that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life. **read ›**
131 **John 3:17** For God did not send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through him. **read ›**
132 **John 3:36** He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who disobeys the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.” **read ›**
133 **John 7:17** If anyone desires to do his will, he will know about the teaching, whether it is from God or if I am speaking from myself. **read ›**
134 **John 12:25** He who loves his life will lose it. He who hates his life in this world will keep it to eternal life. **read ›**
135 **John 15:16** You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain; that whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he may give it to you. **read ›**
136 **Acts 22:14** He said, ‘The God of our fathers has appointed you to know his will, and to see the Righteous One, and to hear a voice from his mouth. **read ›**
137 **Romans 6:16** Do you not know that when you present yourselves as slaves and obey someone, you are the slaves of whomever you obey, whether of sin to death, or of obedience to righteousness? **read ›**
138 **Romans 7:21** I find then the law that, while I desire to do good, evil is present. **read ›**
139 **Romans 8:29** For whom he foreknew, he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. **read ›**
140 **Romans 8:30** Whom he predestined, those he also called. Whom he called, those he also justified. Whom he justified, those he also glorified. **read ›**
141 **Romans 9:11** For before the children had been born or had done anything good or bad, so that God’s purpose according to choosing might stand, not from works but from him who calls, **read ›**
142 **Romans 9:16** So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who has mercy. **read ›**
143 **Romans 9:18** So then, he has mercy on whom he desires, and he hardens whom he desires. **read ›**
144 **Romans 9:19** You will say then to me, “Why does he still find fault? For who withstands his will?” **read ›**

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145 **Romans 13:5** Therefore you need to be in subjection, not only because of the wrath, but also for conscience' sake. **read ›**

146 **1 Corinthians 12:11** But the one and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing to each one separately as he desires. **read ›**

147 **2 Corinthians 8:3** For according to their ability, I testify, and beyond their ability, they gave willingly, **read ›**

148 **Ephesians 1:4** even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before him in love, **read ›**

149 **Ephesians 1:5** having predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, **read ›**

150 **Ephesians 1:11** in him. In him we were also assigned an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, **read ›**

151 **Ephesians 5:21** subjecting yourselves to one another in the fear of Christ. **read ›**

152 **Philippians 2:13** for it is God who works in you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. **read ›**

153 **1 Thessalonians 1:4** knowing, brothers loved by God, that you are chosen, **read ›**

154 **2 Timothy 1:7** For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but of power, love, and self-control. **read ›**

155 **Philemon 1:14** But I wished to do nothing without your consent, so that your good deed would be voluntary, not compelled. **read ›**

156 **Hebrews 13:17** Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they watch on behalf of your souls, as those who will give account, that they may do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be unprofitable for you. **read ›**

157 **1 Peter 1:2** according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, that you may obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with his blood: Grace to you and peace be multiplied. **read ›**

158 **1 Peter 2:13** Therefore subject yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether to the king, as supreme, **read ›**

159 **1 Peter 2:18** Household slaves, be in subjection to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the wicked. **read ›**

160 **1 Peter 3:1** Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some disobey the word, they will be won without a word through their wives' conduct, **read ›**

161 **1 Peter 5:5** Likewise, you younger ones, be subject to the elders. And all of you, submitting to one another, clothe yourselves with humility, for God resists the proud, but he gives grace to the humble. **read ›**

162 **Revelation 22:17** The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" He who hears, let him say, "Come!" He who is thirsty, let him come. He who desires, let him take the water of life freely. **read ›**

ALSO LINKED BY THF TO THESE PASSAGES *94 verses, by reference*

Partly machine-linked: related to the passages, not always quoted in them. Each reference links to the verse in our audio Bible.

Deuteronomy 22:10

Psalms 44:21

Proverbs 14:8

Isaiah 1:16 · 1:20 · 9:6

Matthew 5:4 · 5:5 · 5:8 · 5:19 · 5:28 · 5:39 · 6:19 · 6:24 · 6:31 · 6:32 · 7:13 · 7:21 · 7:24 · 7:26 · 9:13 · 9:22 · 10:39 · 10:41 · 11:27 · 12:7 · 16:26 · 17:5 · 17:20 · 18:19 · 19:12 · 19:16 · 25:34 · 25:41 · 26:41 · 28:18

Mark 8:36 · 10:17 · 10:22

Luke 12:20 · 12:22 · 12:30 · 12:33 · 13:32 · 15:7 · 17:5 · 17:6 · 18:18 · 19:8

John 2:19 · 4:13 · 6:63 · 10:30 · 13:14 · 18:23 · 19:30 · 20:21

Acts 2:4 · 2:41 · 3:17 · 10:42

Romans 1:11 · 1:17 · 2:4 · 2:7 · 2:8 · 7:15 · 9:14 · 9:15

1 Corinthians 1:19 · 1:21 · 2:9 · 5:11 · 10:24 · 13:2 · 16:13

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2 Corinthians 2:10 · 8:12
Galatians 6:14
Ephesians 4:24 · 4:28 · 4:29 · 5:6
Colossians 3:5
1 Timothy 6:20
2 Timothy 2:23
Titus 2:14
Hebrews 9:14
1 Peter 3:21 · 5:8
1 John 2:19
Revelation 2:23 · 19:10 · 21:14

Searched: Ante-Nicene Fathers volumes 1–9 and the Bible, including the Septuagint.

ABOUT THIS STUDY

A THF member asked “Did the early Christians teach Calvinism?” on May 22, 2026. The Historic Faith answered it as a public study on November 9, 2026.

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THE END OF THIS STUDY