

Local Church Resolution

Situation: Calvinism is being intentionally spread by unannounced infiltration into non-Calvinist churches. This is orchestrated by seminaries, professors, associational missionaries, denominational leaders, convention leaders, fellow pastors, and influencers in fellowships and other types of official and unofficial affiliations. The orchestration side has been witnessed first-hand, and countless church members testify of hostile infiltrating take-overs from Calvinist leaders who do not announce their doctrinal stance until after they are firmly established in their positions. This has been the cause of much heartache and despair and has resulted in split churches and split families. Most concerning, this has resulted in churches losing their focus on reaching the lost due to being distracted by deception, heartache, and false doctrine from within.

This resolution is intended to have the dual purpose of

1. Preventing Calvinist infiltration in the local church
 2. Educate members and raise awareness of what is relevant to suspected infiltration
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- I. We, the members of this Local church resolve the following:
 - II. Whereas Calvinism is a seductive deception of false doctrine and practice, we resolve to forbid adherence to this system in any of our leaders or officers.
 - III. Whereas Calvinism is propagated by deceitful and clandestine methods, we resolve to remain alert of its presence, understanding that it will be hidden behind various alternative labels and clever semantic phrases which patronize the good senses of Christians in general (Romans 16:17-18).
 - IV. Whereas Calvinist infiltrators tend to conceal their affiliation with Calvinism, persons shall be deemed unfit for office or leadership of any kind who do not voluntarily, vehemently and articulately oppose the system of Calvinism. There is no toleration for any sympathy toward Calvinism or for any “leaning” toward Calvinism to any degree with regard to church officers and leaders.
 - V. Whereas “predestination” is a concept that appears in various passages of scripture and should always be interpreted based on the context in which it appears, those who treat “Predestination” as a concept to be accepted or rejected wholesale in a binary fashion are under Calvinistic influence and are not yet fit for leadership at any level.
 - VI. Whereas the concepts of “election” and “chosen” appear in various passages of scripture most frequently as relating to the concept of service and should always be interpreted based on the on context in which they appear, those who treat “election” as a “doctrine” or who use the term interchangeably with salvation or

predestination are under Calvinistic influence and are not yet fit for leadership at any level.

- VII. Whereas Calvinism is infiltrative in nature, there is no toleration for any church member at any level to attempt to persuade anyone else to think in a Calvinistic manner. Members resolve to be alert for clever word games and syllogistic lines of reasoning which would lead a person to elevate Calvinistic narrative concepts as more authoritative than clear and plain scripture.
- VIII. Whereas Calvinism deceptively attempts to re-brand itself in more and more palatable language, those who promote Calvinism in any kind of disguised language are not fit for church leadership or office of any kind. Such disguised language may include but is not limited to the following: doctrines of grace, reformed, reformed theology, sovereign grace, sovereignty, reformation theology, Augustinian theology, classic historic theology, Protestant theology, systematic theology, 3 Dot Theology, etc...
- IX. Whereas Calvinism is often infiltrated first as a clandestine operation, this assembly will carefully note any attempts to make changes to the property, assembly, service order, etc... Indicating activity may include but is not limited to changing the church name, changing the church sign, emphasis of "9 marks," removal of the invitation at the end of the service, strange repeated emphasis of seemingly simple concepts (may indicate a person is trying to convey something without coming out and saying it), a willingness to completely re-shape the make-up of the congregation to one that is friendly to the unannounced direction the pastor wants to go, etc... These initiatives will be passed off as needed in order to be relevant and up-to-date and will somewhat resemble a Rick Warren-style purpose-driven take-over, while the specifics of change may differ.
- X. Whereas Calvinism tends to elevate certain concepts as metrics of authenticity over and above scripture but without announcing such, members of this church will be alert for any emphasis of the following to be employed as reasons for Calvinism's correctness, and will recognize these as subtle attempts to diminish and replace scriptural authority as the sole metric of authenticity (including but not limited to): sovereignty of God, God's control, God's omniscience, God's foreknowledge, the humility of man, the sinfulness of man, no boasting, not by works.

*Calvinism is infamous for taking good and positive things from the complex of organic Christian ideas and exploiting current levels of human understanding in violation of Proverbs 3:5-6 to leverage the emphasis of these good things as a metric of authenticity *at the expense of scriptural authority being the sole metric of authenticity*. For example, it is recognized as a virtue to affirm that God is in control. Thus, if they can make it look like their system makes it look like God is in a greater degree of control than an opposing belief system, then this is seen as a reason that the system that gives God a greater degree of control (per human understanding) therefore has a greater degree of correctness. Albeit, this may be in clear violation of how scripture specifies that God implements or administers his control. The same can be said for each of these issues, and any other issue that may be used in like fashion. Thus, comparison of one system of belief versus

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another will be made, and whichever system has the “virtue” (or anti-virtue) to a greater degree is presented as the “correct” system due to its portrayal of the virtue to a greater degree (per human understanding).

- XI. Whereas Calvinism is recognized as a system of false doctrine which is most popularly recognized by the TULIP acronym, those who adhere to any of the following are not fit for leadership or office of any kind in the local church:
- Total Depravity** – the idea that man is not only so sinful that he cannot save himself, but that he is so sinful that he cannot receive Jesus Christ or believe the gospel without first being salvifically regenerated.
 - Unconditional Election** – God, in eternity, sovereignly decreed arbitrarily those who would be saved with no consideration given to any present or future “condition” the person may or may not meet, such as having faith.
 - Limited Atonement** – the atonement is what saves, and it only efficiently saves those who have been unconditionally elected for salvation.
 - Irresistible Grace** – when God moves in “grace” to regenerate those who have been unconditionally elected, that grace cannot be resisted.
 - Perseverance of the saints** – once regenerated, those who have been unconditionally elected for salvation will persevere in faith and good works.
- XII. Whereas Calvinism’s usurpation of scriptural authority requires a heavy reliance and trust upon men and the works of men, members of this local church will be on alert for leaders who use quotations from men as if they are authoritative or as if they “settle” doctrinal matters. Members will be on alert for any elevation or veneration of “the great giants of the faith,” or any such similar language. Members will be on alert for credentials such as academic degrees, positions or prestige to be leveraged in such a way that it makes the person holding such credentials more authoritative. This church does not support outsourcing the individual’s sense-making or discernment to other persons, especially not exalted persons deemed to be experts or authoritative by those who respect persons or who hold men’s persons in admiration. Repeated quotations from Christian writers and leaders who tend to have “Calvinism” as a common thread among them will trigger a fitness review by the board of elders/deacons or by the congregation in which any of the aforementioned parties may consult external resources and personnel and/or other disinterested third parties to help determine if the person making the quotations is an undisclosed adherent to Calvinism.
- XIII. Whereas Calvinism does not announce itself when infiltrating a church, any and all pulpit committee or pastor search committee members, when in search of a new pastor or of a new member of the pastoral staff will ensure that each candidate is thoroughly vetted in accordance with this resolution prior to the candidate being initially considered for any role or position.
- XIV. Whereas Calvinist infiltrators have multi-year approaches and account for setbacks, those leaders who have been identified as being Calvinist will be encouraged to resign from their position or will removed by a church vote as early as possible in

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accordance with this assembly's constitution and/or bylaws, if required. Disavowing or newly denying Calvinism after being discovered does not absolve the requirement of removal from the held position. Those who are discovered to be Calvinistic but claim to disavow Calvinism are not eligible to hold any position in this local assembly until at least five full calendar years have passed from the point of disavowal, and those five years must clearly demonstrate steadfast and genuine departure and growth away from Calvinism and in the Word of God with accompanying spiritual fruit.

- XV. Whereas Calvinism tends to spread in conjunction with affiliated entities and organizations, this assembly will be alert for any affiliation with entities such as "Acts 29," "9 Marks," "The Gospel Coalition," or any other such organization or entity that is Calvinistic in its doctrine. Affiliation with any entity will be investigated for association with Calvinism.
- XVI. Whereas opposing Calvinism in a very specific way is absolutely necessary during this age of clandestine Calvinist infiltration, care should be taken by the members and leadership not to allow this resolution to be used as leverage for a "witch hunt" for internal struggles within the local body. It is possible that internal feuds or disagreements among church members may incentivize an aggrieved party to cast someone else as a Calvinist so that this resolution can be used against them. This resolution should also not be used to "map" someone to Calvinism who happens to believe something (such as 'eternal security') that would be an opportunity for a less scrupulous person to accuse them of being a Calvinist due to apparent convergence. The intent of this resolution is to help prevent the infiltration strategies of Calvinism from affecting this church. Care should be taken to allow local members to grow, develop, and even struggle with difficult doctrinal matters without being unduly pressured to bias their sense-making in non-epistemic ways. That being said, when pressure is due, members of this church resolve to boldly and soundly apply it.
- XVII. Suspected infringement of any portion of this resolution constitutes reasonable basis to warrant a fitness review by the church leadership and/or membership and subsequent termination in accordance with this assembly's bylaws and/or constitution. The church may consult external third parties in order to help ascertain the truth of a pastor's doctrinal stance since dishonesty and strategic misinformation is rampant with this issue, and since churches often lack the theological training and readiness to easily discern theological matters that are complicated by dishonesty.

I, the undersigned, freely affirm that I am not a Calvinist and that I do not sympathize with Calvinism in any way. I will employ due diligence to ensure that this local assembly and others like it are protected against Calvinistic infiltration of any kind, whether covert, overt, or otherwise, and at any level of leadership or membership in accordance with this resolution.

(Printed name)

(Signature)

(Date)