

# Calvinism and Arminianism

## The Basic Differences... and Why It Matters

### INTRODUCTION



#### **The Basic Issue in Life.**

##### **John Calvin (1509-64).**

- Reformed theology.
- The influence of Augustine of Hippo.
- A brilliant and controversial theologian.

##### **Calvin's Critics.**

- Jerome Bolsec (d. 1585).
  - The issue of double predestination.

##### **Jacobus Arminius (1560-1609).**

- A Protestant pastor, Bible scholar and theologian at the University of Leiden.
- An assessment of Dirck Coornhert's theology (1589).
  - Predestination, supralapsarianism and infralapsarianism.
- Arminius's acceptance of free will.
- Accusations of Pelagianism.
- Debate with Franciscus Gomarus (1608).

##### **The Calvinist/Arminian Controversy.**

- Arminius's efforts to "reform" Reformation theology.
- Controversial doctrines: unconditional election, limited atonement, and irresistible grace.
- Arminian "preventing" (prevenient) grace.
- The Arminian Remonstrance of 1610: A 5-point critique of Calvinism.
- The Council of Dort (1618) and "Five Articles Against the Remonstrants."
  - "Five-Point Calvinism" (TULIP).
- The Westminster Confession of Faith (1647).

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