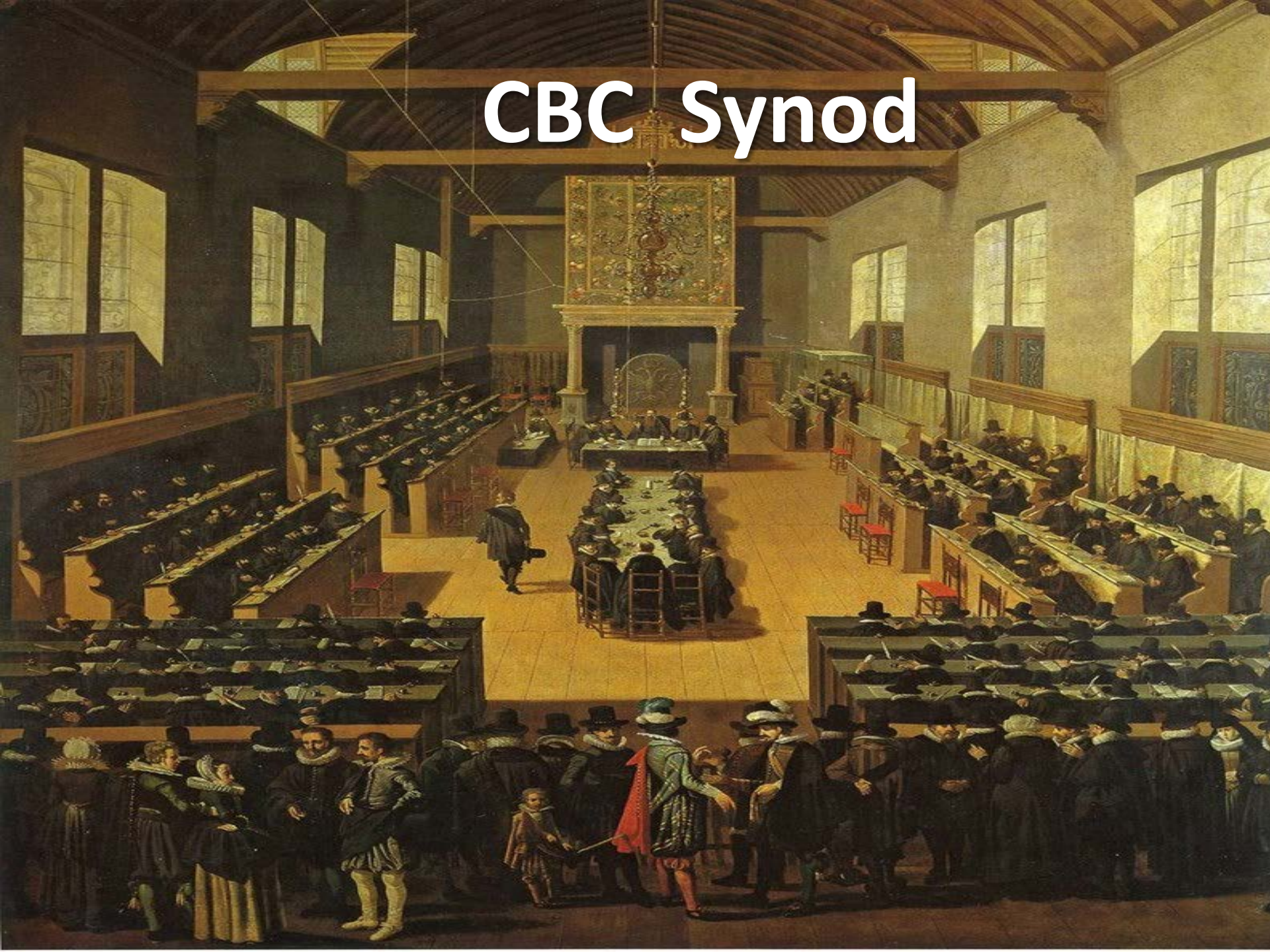


CBC Synod



Society of Evangelical Arminians “Anyone who denies the doctrine of Total Depravity, including its corollary Total Inability, is semi-Pelagian at best and not a classical Arminian. Both Arminius and the early Remonstrants accept the biblical doctrine of Total Depravity and Total Inability as non-negotiable tenets of orthodox theology. Should one argue that anyone can, apart from the gracious enabling of the Holy Spirit, trust in Christ by one’s free will, such a one is not a classical Arminian but, rather an outright Pelagian”

Gen 1:31 “For God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good”

Gen 2:17 “In the day that you eat of it [the tree] you shall surely die”

Jhn 3:6 “that which is born of the flesh is flesh”

Ro 8:7-8 “the mind of the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it

cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot

please God” **1 Cor 2:14**, “The natural person does

not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they

are folly to him, and he cannot understand them

because they are spiritually discerned.”

Heb 11:6 “Without faith it is impossible to please him.” So, those in the flesh do not have faith.

2 Thes 3:2 “Not all have THE faith.” Paul says the reason the people were wicked and evil is because they did not have THE faith.

Ro 14:23 “Whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.”

Matt 22:37 “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind”

Ja 2:10 “guilty of breaking one part guilty of breaking all”

Gal 5:3 “keep one part have to keep all parts”

Ro 3:13 “For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified.”

Acts 15:10 “Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear?”

The law’s purpose was to:

- show God’s righteousness – **Lev 19-20**
- show the sinfulness of man – **Gal 3:19**
- reveal to humanity that no one can keep the Law but everyone falls short of God’s standard of holiness. **Gal 3, Ro 3**
- a tutor to bring us to Christ – **Gal 3:24**

Jesus likewise called people to do what they could not. **Matt 5:44** “Therefore you **MUST** be perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect.”



Acts 17:30 “God commands all people everywhere to repent”

Acts 11:18 “to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life.”

2 Tim 2:25 Paul says that we must gently instruct those who oppose us in the hope that “God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth.”

Ro 8:7 “For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not (will) submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot (ability).”

1 John 5:1: “Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God.”

God's creation of light in our hearts: “God, who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”
(2 Cor 4:6)

God's causing us to be born again: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”
(1 Pet 1:3)

God's raising us from the dead: "God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ." (Eph 2:4–5)

God's gift of repentance: "God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will." (2 Tim 2:25–26)

God's gift of faith: Phil 1:29 "It has been **granted** ("graced" aorist, passive) to **you** that for the sake of Christ you ~~should~~ (no should) not only **believe in** (accusative preposition meaning it indicates the primary RECIPIENT of the verb's action) him but also suffer for his sake."



Man's free will is never given in the Bible as the reason he is saved, it is often given as the reason he is not.

Jhn 3:20 "man refuses to come to the light because his deeds are evil." **Matt 23:37** "how often I would have gathered you but you would not. **John 5:40** "you refuse to come to me that you may have life." **Pr 1:24-29** "because I have called and you refused to listen

The entire OT is a rebuke against man's choosing sin and idolatry over God. That is all man "could" do otherwise why did God promise a new heart and obedience in the New Covenant?

Ez 36:27 “And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.”

Jer 32:40 “And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, so that they shall not depart from me.”

John 3:21 “But whoever does (active present) what is true comes (middle voice, subject acts) to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out (passive perfect) by God.”

Mark 13:20 "But for the sake of the elect, whom he chose, he shortened the days."

1 Cor 12:18 "God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose."

Eph 1:4-6 "even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace"

2 Thess 2:13-15 “But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. 14 To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 13:48 “as many as were appointed to eternal life believed.”

Jhn 6:44 “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him”.

V45 “Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me”

Simply put, a person cannot come to Christ on his own; God must draw him; when God draws him, he will come. In our Lord’s statement in John 6:44 we have the basic components for the doctrines of total depravity (no one can come), conversion to God (come to me), and effectual calling and regeneration (the Father draws him).

John 3:3-8 "Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

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Total Inability (true) confirmed by the Bible

Free will regeneration (false) denied by the Bible

1 Cor 1:30 "It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus"

