

Soteriology

Session 30



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Soteriology Overview

- I. Definition
- II. Election
- III. Atonement
- IV. Salvation words
- V. God's one condition of salvation
- VI. Results of salvation
- VII. Eternal security**
- VIII. Faulty views of salvation

Soteriology Overview

This Session

VII. Eternal Security

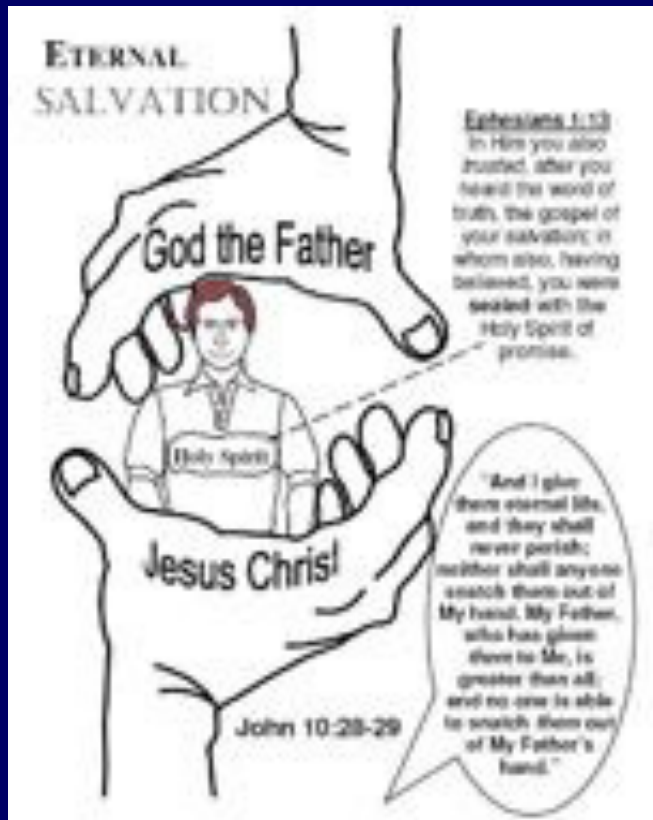




Definition of Eternal Security

“Eternal Security means that those who have been *genuinely saved* **by God’s grace through faith alone in Christ alone** shall never be in danger of God’s condemnation or loss of salvation but God’s grace and power keep them forever saved and secure.”

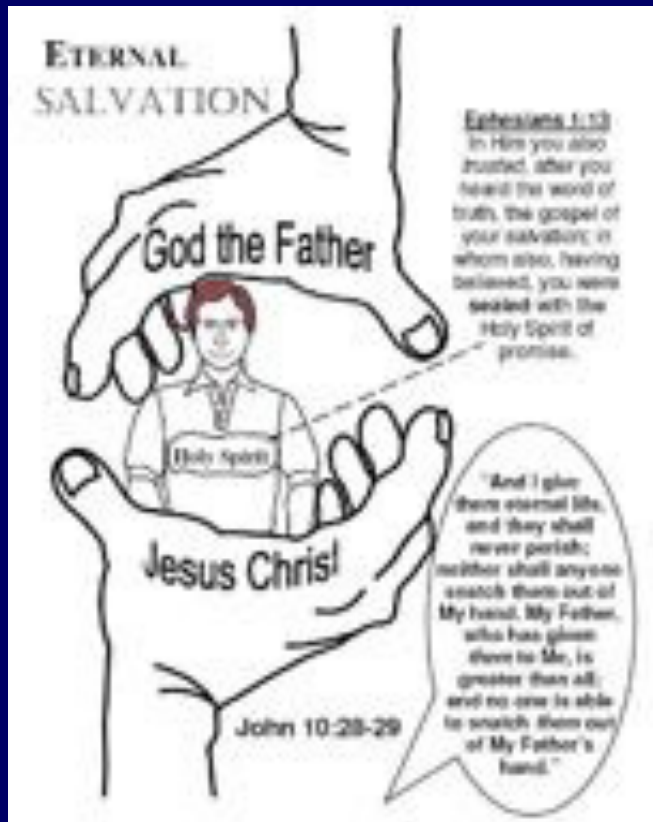
Eternal Security Outline



1. Eternal security arguments
2. Response to problem passages



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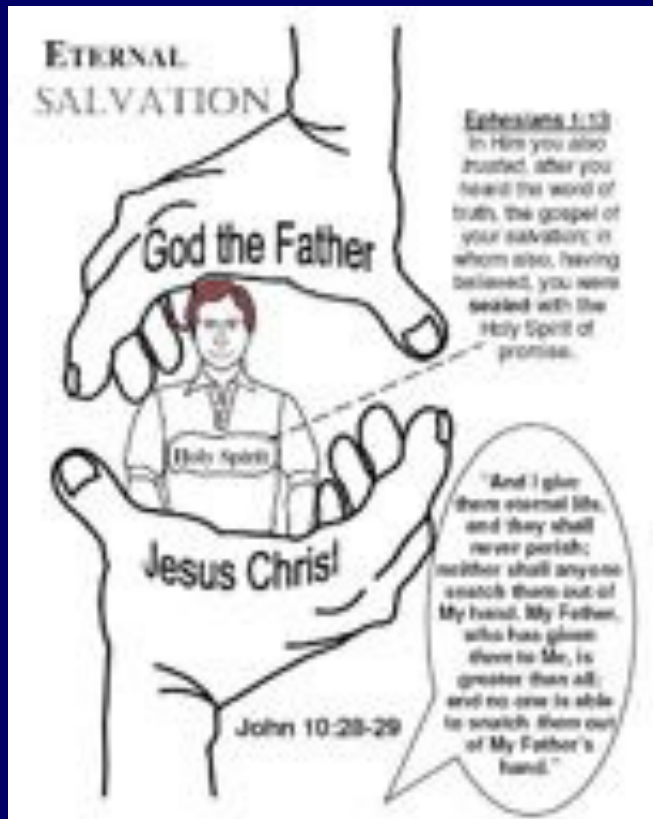
Evidence for Eternal Security

1. Because self-righteousness did not save us it is not a basis upon which salvation can be lost
2. Salvation is not given or maintained by works
3. If a believer can lose eternal life, then how can this life be eternal (John 3:16)?
4. The Bible's promises guarantee security (John 10:28)
5. The assurance of salvation (1 John 5:14)
6. The believer is predestined for glory (Rom 8:29-30)
7. The Spirit's seal cannot be broken (Eph 4:30)

Evidence for Eternal Security

8. God keeps us from falling (1 Pet 1:4-5)
9. Christ's role as intercessor and advocate (John 17:11-12, 20)
10. Christ's death perfectly dealt with all sins (Titus 2:14)
11. A believer cannot be removed from Christ's body (1 Cor. 12:13)
12. The Bible does not specify which sins remove salvation
13. Believers with unfruitful lives still have salvation although lose rewards at the Bema Seat (1 Cor 3:15)

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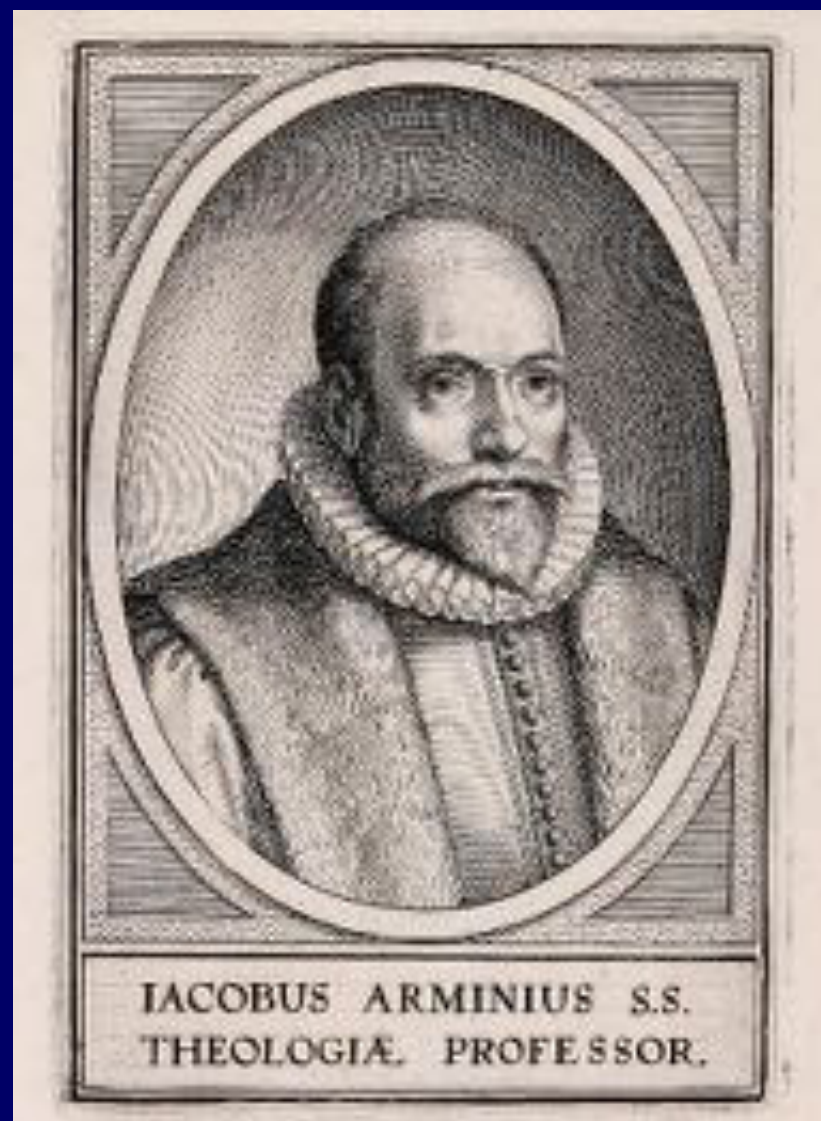
Introduction

- Rejoice?
- Jacob Arminius (1560–1609)
- Harmonization
- The Bible cannot contradict itself
- Biblical order



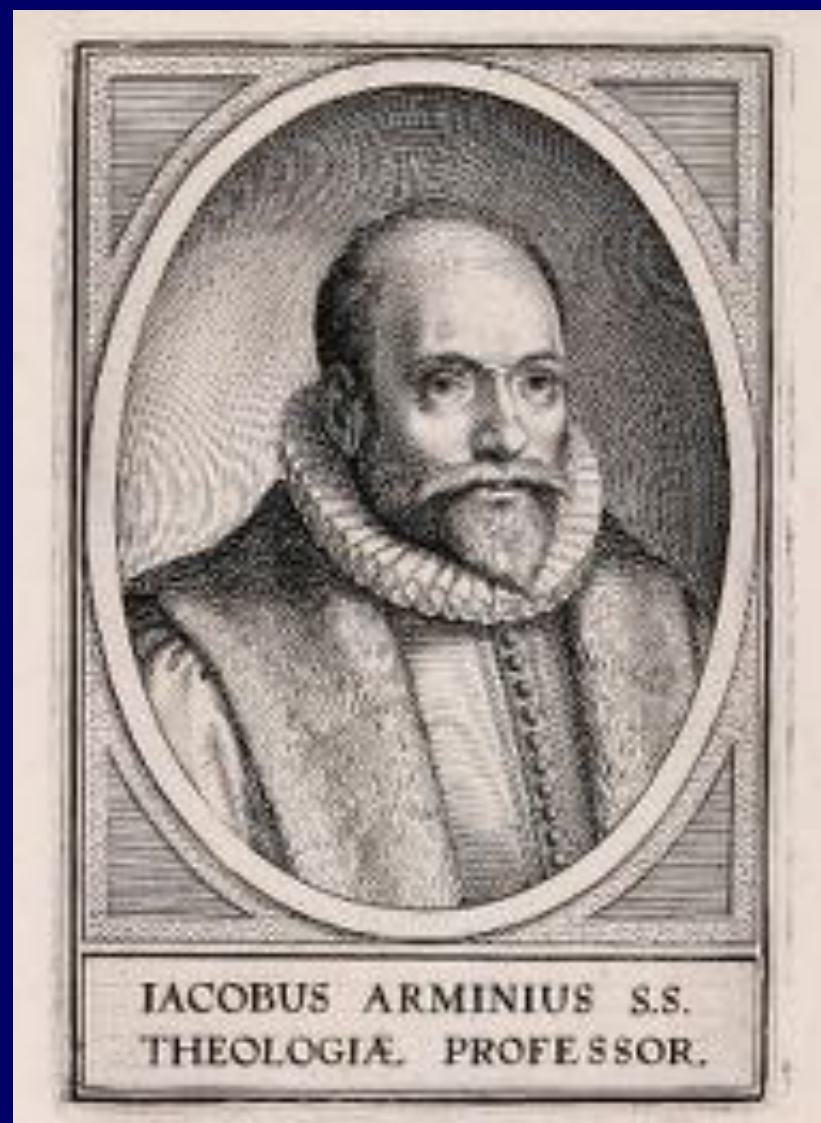
Response to Problem Passages

1. OT Passages
2. Passages from Matthew
3. Passages from John
4. Passages from Acts
5. Passages from Paul



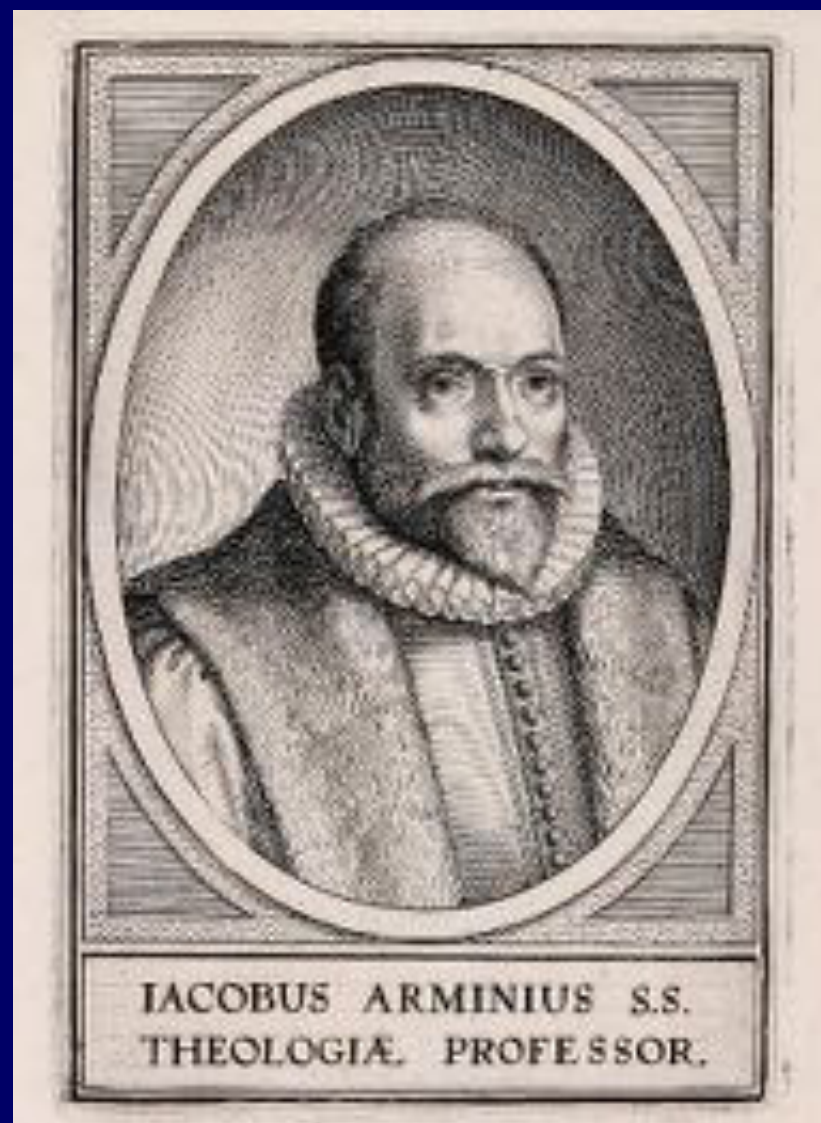
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6. Passages from James
7. Passages from Hebrews
8. Passages from 2 Peter
9. Passages from 1 John
10. Passages from Revelation
11. Miscellaneous argument



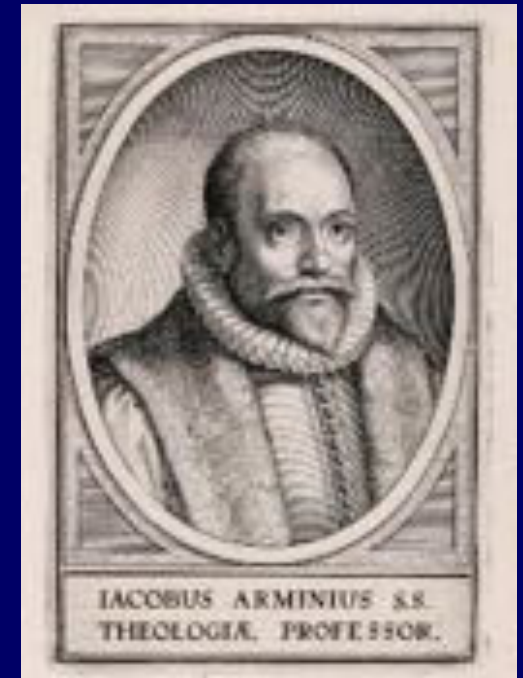
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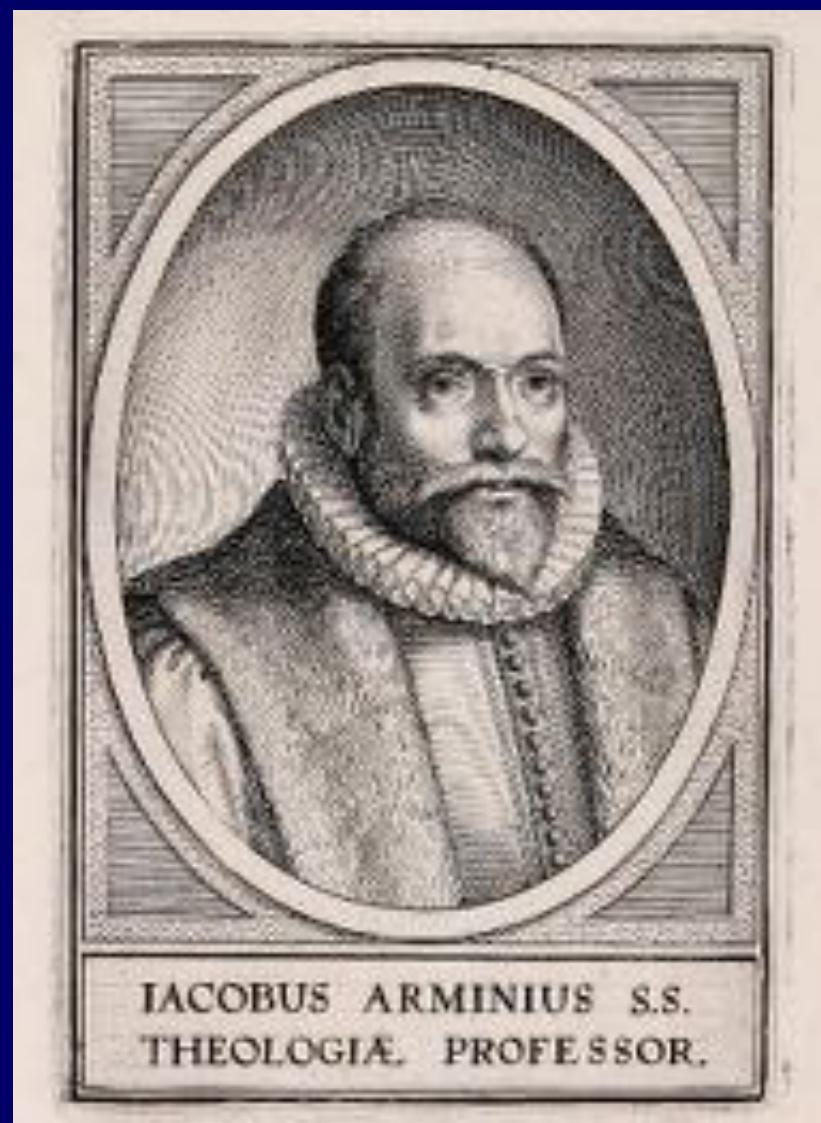
1. OT Passages

- a. Adam & Eve (Gen. 1–3)
- b. Nadab & Abihu (Lev. 10:1-2)
- c. Korah's rebellion (Num. 16)
- d. Joshua 24:20
- e. Saul (1 Sam. 16:14; 28; 1 Chron. 10:13-14)
- f. Solomon (1 Kgs. 11)
- g. David (Ps. 51:11)
- h. Ezekiel 18:20



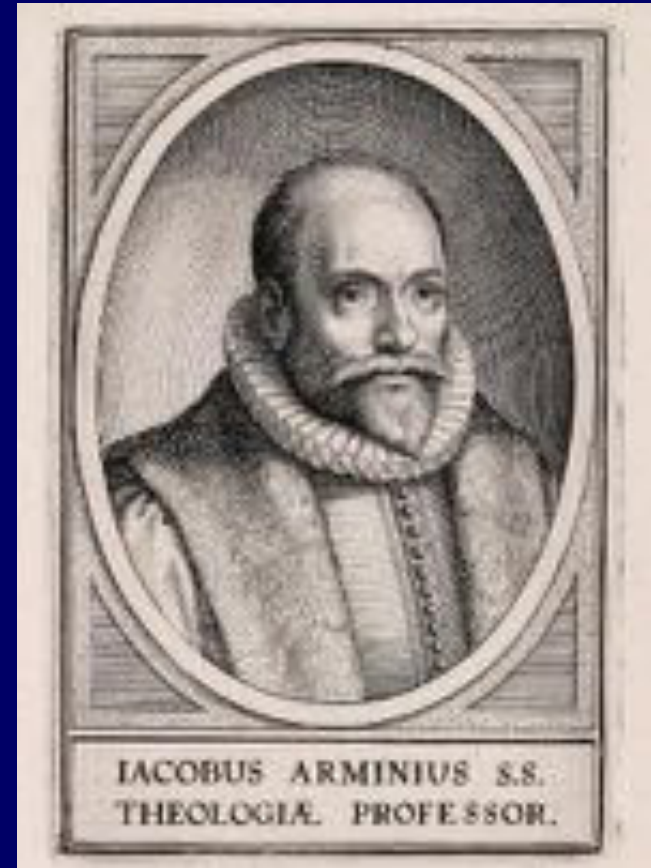
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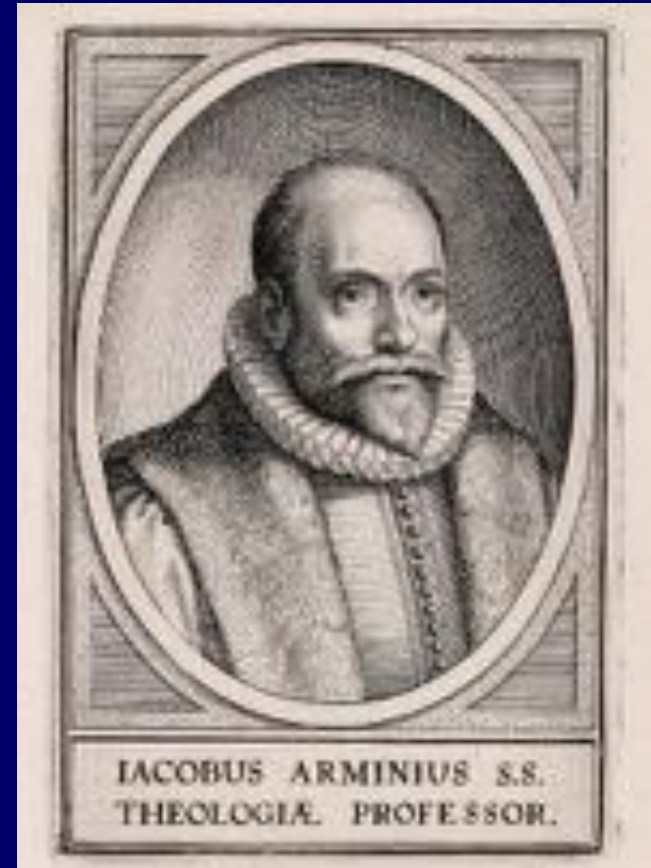
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- b. Matt. 7:21-23
- c. Matt. 8:11-12; 25:30
- d. Matt. 10:32-33
- e. Matt. 12:31-32
- f. Matt. 24:13
- g. Matt. 25:41



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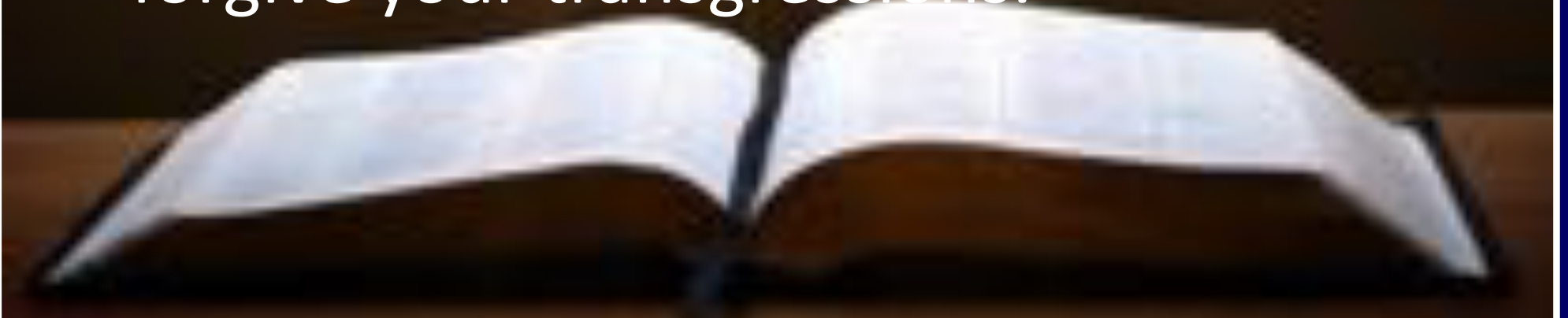
Matthew 6:9, 14-15 (NASB)

“⁹ Our Father who is in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name... ¹⁴ For if you
forgive others for their transgressions,
your heavenly Father will also forgive
you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive
others, then your Father will not
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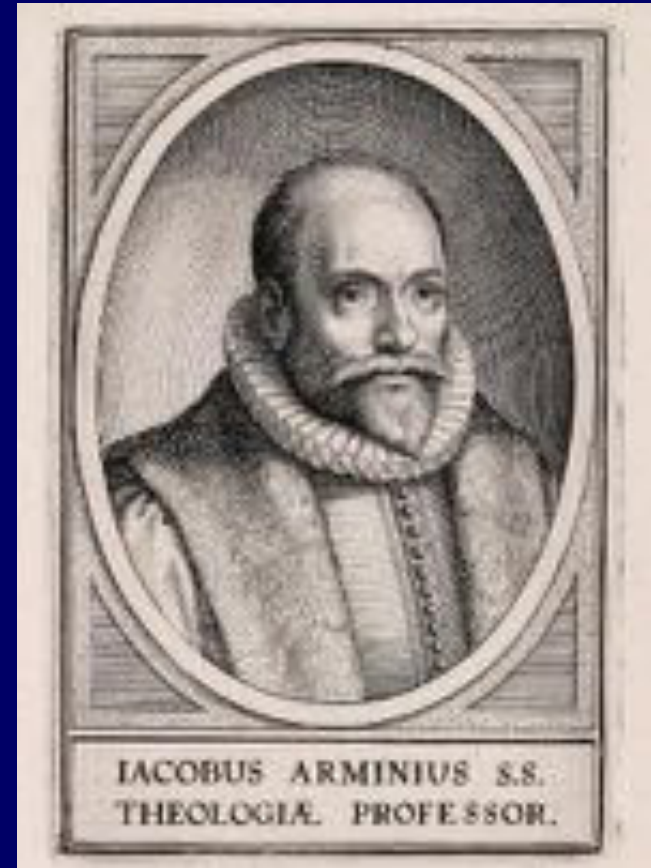
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- d. Matt. 10:32-33
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- g. Matt. 25:41



Matt. 7:21-23 (NASB)

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*.²² Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’”



Problem Passages in the Gospel of John Part II: Untrustworthy Believers—John 2:23-25

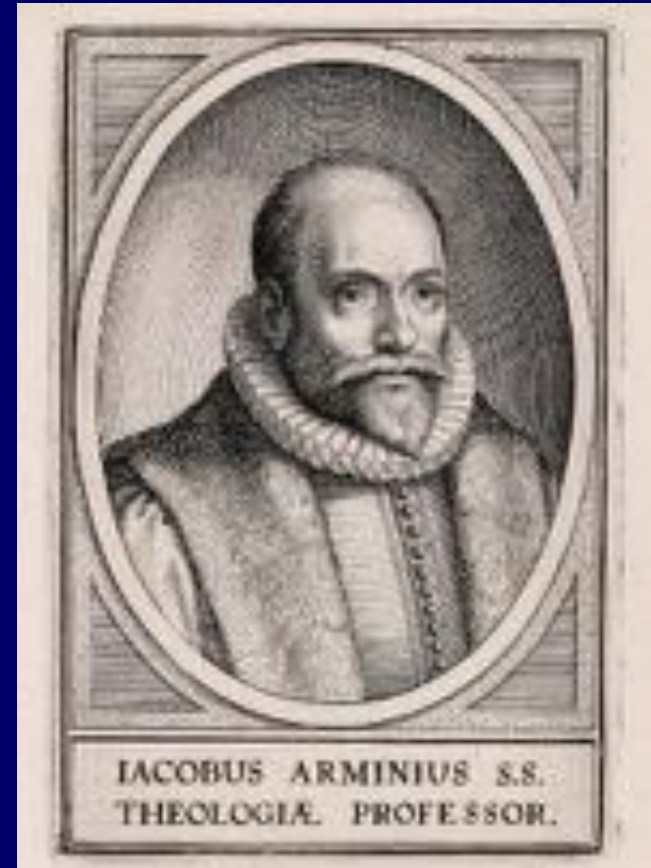


William Hendriksen

“Many trusted in his name; i.e., because of the manner in which his power was displayed they accepted him as a great prophet and perhaps even as the Messiah. This, however, is not the same as saying that they surrendered their hearts to him. **Not all faith is saving faith...**”

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- b. Matt. 7:21-23
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- d. Matt. 10:32-33
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- g. Matt. 25:41



Matt. 8:11-12 (NASB)

“I say to you that many will come from east and west, and recline *at the table* with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven; ¹² but the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

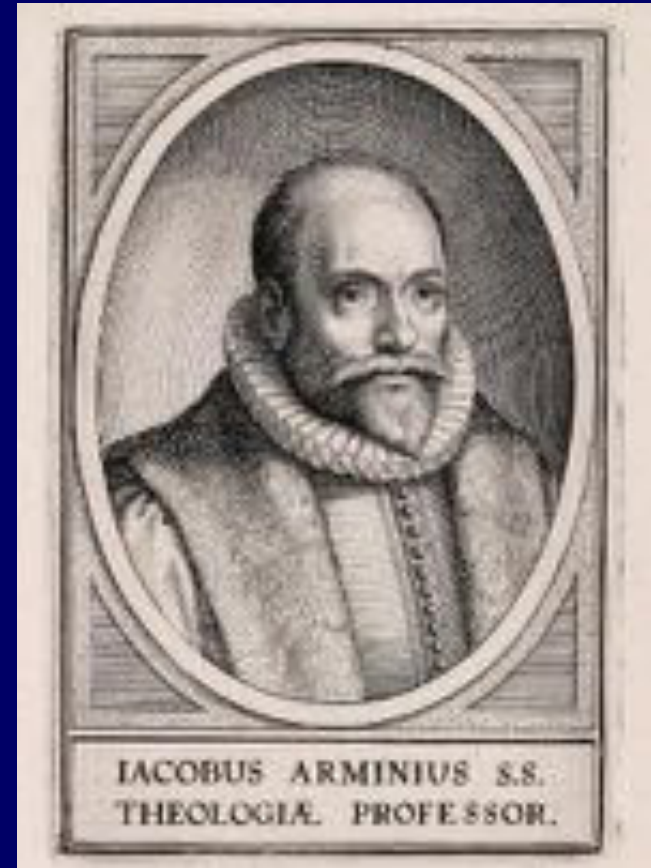


Origin of the Universal Church

- Matt 16:18 – future tense
- Eph 2:14-15; 3:9; Rom 16:25-26; Col 1:26-27 – mystery
- Eph 1:20-22 – Christ's headship over church after Ascension
- Eph 4:7-11 – spiritual gifts after Ascension
- 1 Cor. 12:13 – Spirit's baptizing ministry
 - Acts 1:5 – above to begin after Ascension
 - Acts 11:15-16 – above began in the past
 - Acts 2 – only place for beginning of Spirit's baptizing ministry

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Matt. 10:32-33 (NASB)

“Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven.”



Matthew and the Kingdom



- Kingdom predicted (Isa 11:6-9)
- **Kingdom offered (Matt. 3:2; 4:17; 10:5-7)**
- Kingdom rejected (Matt. 12:24)
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- John the Baptist – 3:2
- Jesus Christ – 4:17
- 12 Apostles – 10:5, 7

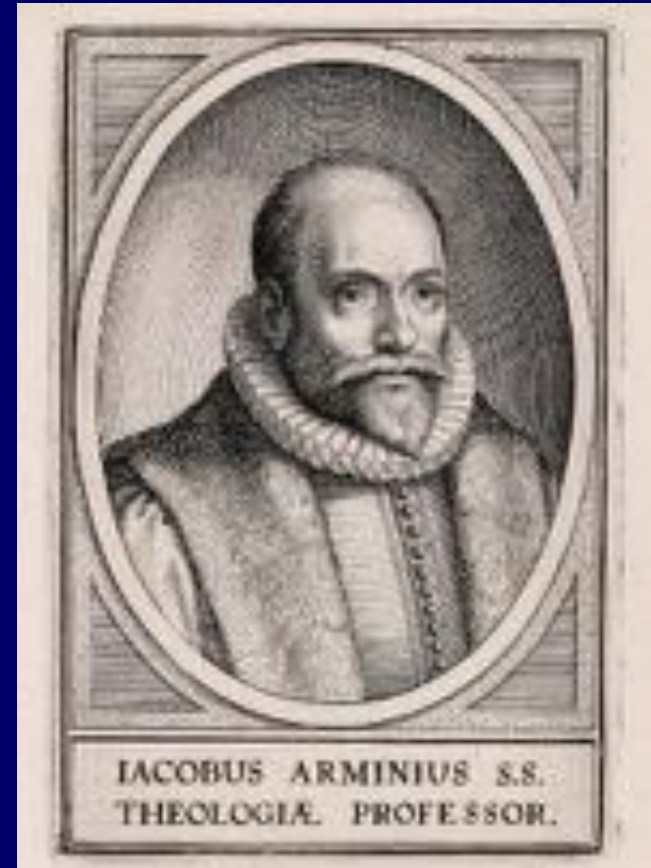
Matthew 10:5-7 (NASB)

“These twelve Jesus sent out after instructing them: “Do not go in *the* way of *the* Gentiles, and do not enter *any* city of the Samaritans; ⁶ but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷ And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’”



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- a. Matt. 6:14-15
- b. Matt. 7:21-23
- c. Matt. 8:11-12; 25:30
- d. Matt. 10:32-33
- e. **Matt. 12:31-32**
- f. Matt. 24:13
- g. Matt. 25:41



Matthew 12:31-32 (NASB)

“Therefore I say to you, any sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven people, but blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven. Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man, it shall be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the *age* to come.”



Matthew 12:31-32

- I. Context
- II. Five key questions
- III. Summary
- IV. Is suicide the unpardonable sin?

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II. Five Key Questions (Matt. 12:31-32)

1. What is the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit?
2. Who committed the blasphemy of this sin?
3. What did this sin reveal?
4. Why can't this sin be forgiven?
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3. What did this sin reveal?
 - a. Their unbelief
 - b. Their self righteousness
 - c. Matt. 12:34-35
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Abrahamic Covenant



Unconditional covenant with a conditional blessing (Deut. 28; Lev. 26)



Mediterranean Sea

AMMON

CANAAN

MOAB

Nile Delta

Teris

GOSHEN

Ethan

Wilderness of Shur

EDOM

Kadash bamek

SINAI Peninsula

Ezion-geber

EGYPT

Land of Midian

Arabia

Pharaidan

SINAI

Red Sea

Exodus 19:5-6

“Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel.”



Six Parts of a Suzerain-Vassal Treaty* in Deuteronomy

- Preamble (1:1-5)
- Prologue (1:6–4:40)
- Covenant obligations (5–26)
 - Deut 17:15
 - John 5:39, 46
- Storage and reading instructions (27:2-3; 31:9, 24, 26)
- Witnesses (32:1)
- Blessings and curses (28)



*Suzerainty–Vassal treaty, which Ancient Near Eastern kings made, were only with redeemed or conquered nations and never with individuals. (2007). *Christian Apologetics Journal*, 6.

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- Judgment upon first – century national Israel (Deut. 28:49-50; Matt. 24:34-37; Luke 19:41-44; Acts 2:40-41)
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OT PROPHETS DESCRIBE THE KINGDOM



- Kingdom Characteristics
- Is. 2:1-4; 11:6-9
 - Jerusalem = center of world spiritual and political authority
 - Perfect justice
 - World peace
 - Peace in the animal kingdom
 - Universal spiritual knowledge.

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Toussaint, *Behold the King*, 18-20

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Transition from Public to Private Ministry

	PUBLIC	PRIVATE
Scripture	1–12	13–28
Focus	Nation	Remnant
Miracles	Proof to nation	Training for remnant
Offer	Prominent	Disappears
Teaching	Discourse	Parabolic
Interim program	Not mentioned	Prominent

Matthew Outline

Pedigree of the king (1–2)

– Preparation of the king (3–4)

• Pedagogy of the king (5–7)

– Power of the king (8–9)

» Program of the king (10)

• Progressive rejection of the king (11–12)

» Preparation of the king's disciples (13–20)

– Presentation & rejection of the king (21–23)

• Prophecies of the king (24–25)

– Passion of the king (26–27)

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 2. Yes – dying in unbelief
 - b. Nationally? – No

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Committing Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit Today?

- No commands in the epistles against blasphemy against the Holy Spirit
- Epistolary commands involving the Spirit
 - Do not lie to the Spirit (Acts 5:3)
 - Do not grieve the Spirit (Eph. 4:30)
 - Do not quench the Spirit (1 Thess. 5:19)
 - Walk according to the Spirit (Gal. 5:16)
 - Be filled with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18)

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Arnold
Fruchtenbaum,
Israelology, pg. 617

“In verses 30–37, He pronounced a judgment on the Jewish generation of that day. That generation had committed the unpardonable sin: the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit. **The unpardonable sin was not an individual sin but a national sin. It was committed by that generation of Israel in Jesus’ day and cannot be applied to subsequent Jewish generations.** The content and definition of the unpardonable sin is the national rejection of the Messiahship of Jesus by Israel while He was physically present on the basis that He was demon possessed. This sin was unpardonable, and judgment was set.”



Arnold
Fruchtenbaum,
Israelology, pg. 617

“The judgment came in the year A.D. 70 with the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple and the world-wide dispersion of the Jewish people. It was a national sin committed by the generation of Jesus’ day, and for that generation the sin was unpardonable. From this point on a special emphasis is placed on *this generation* in the gospels, for it was guilty of a very unique sin. At this point, His offer of the Messianic Kingdom was rescinded. It will not now be established in their day because of the unpardonableness of that sin.”

Matthew 12:31-32

I. Context

II. Five key questions

III. Summary

IV. Is suicide the unpardonable sin?

III. Summary

- A. Pharisees attributed Christ's miracles to Satan
- B. Pharisees did not believe in Christ as their Messiah
- C. A person must believe in Jesus to be saved
- D. The sin committed by the unbelieving Pharisees marks the nation's official rejection of the kingdom offer
- E. This sin is a one-time sin that cannot be replicated in subsequent generations or today
- F. The offer is then withdrawn as Christ announces His soon death and coming church (Matt. 16:18, 21)
- G. There is no loss of salvation because the Pharisees were never saved to begin with

Matthew 12:31-32

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Seven Suicides of the Bible

1. Abimelech (Judges 9:54)
2. Samson (Judges 16:26-31)
3. Saul's armor bearer (1 Sam. 31:5)
4. Saul (1 Sam. 31:3-6)
5. Ahithophel (2 Sam. 17)
6. Zimri (1 Kgs. 16:18)
7. Judas (Matt. 27:4-5)

Seven Suicides of the Bible

1. Abimelech (Judges 9:54)
2. Samson (Judges 16:26-31)
3. Saul's armor bearer (1 Sam. 31:5)
4. Saul (1 Sam. 31:3-6)
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Seven Suicides of the Bible

1. Abimelech (Judges 9:54)
2. Samson (Judges 16:26-31) – Heb. 11:32
3. Saul's armor bearer (1 Sam. 31:5)
4. Saul (1 Sam. 31:3-6) – 1 Sam. 28:19
5. Ahithophel (2 Sam. 17)
6. Zimri (1 Kgs. 16:18)
7. Judas (Matt. 27:4-5)

Romans 8:38-39 (NASB)

“For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”



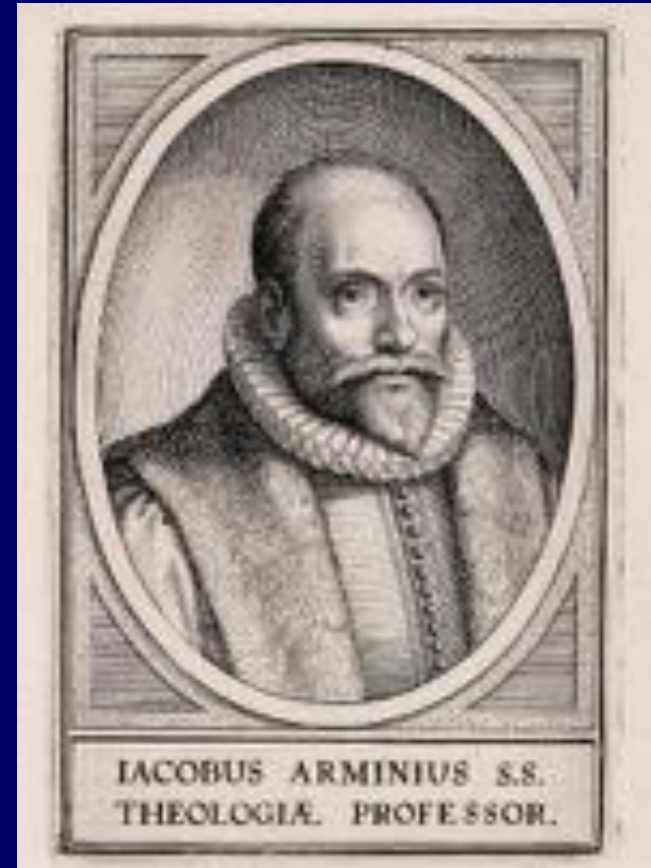
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2. Passages From Matthew

- a. Matt. 6:14-15
- b. Matt. 7:21-23
- c. Matt. 8:11-12; 25:30
- d. Matt. 10:32-33
- e. Matt. 12:31-32
- f. **Matt. 24:13**
- g. Matt. 25:41



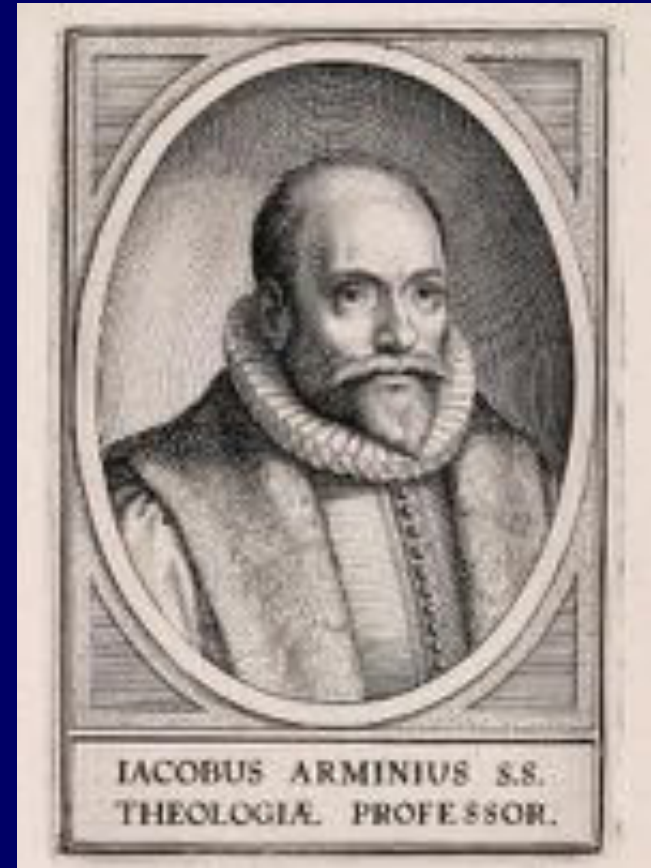
Matt. 24:13 (NASB)

“But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.”



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- a. Matt. 6:14-15
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- f. Matt. 24:13
- g. **Matt. 25:41**



Matt. 25:41 (NASB)



“Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels.’”



Angelic Salvation?

“Because the angels are a company and not a race, they sinned *individually*, and not in some federal head of the race [as was true with humanity's fall in the person of Adam]. It may be that because of this that God made no provision of salvation for the fallen angels.”

Human vs. Angelic Accountability

Humans	Fallen Angels
	
Sinned as a class (Rom 5:12)	Sinned individually
Sin nature	No sin nature
Did not stand in God's glory	Stood in God's glory

CONCLUSION

2. Passages From Matthew

- a. Matt. 6:14-15
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