

Unpopular Biblical Doctrines?

by Wayne Goff

I came across a denominational preacher's claim that there are many "*unpopular Biblical doctrines*" that even most preachers don't mention. He said that atheists know more about these doctrines than some Christians! Of course, that piqued my interest, so I had to read on. Unfortunately, not all of his "*biblical doctrines*" were **biblical**, which will only give more fodder to the atheists.

I will mention two in a list of eleven which are not biblical. "*God does not love everybody or have a 'wonderful plan' for their lives.*"

Are you kidding me? What supposed preacher of Christianity would write that? Has he never read John 3:16? "*For God so loved **the world** that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*" Does not "*the world*" include every human being? And how about 2 Peter 3:9? "*The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.*" Does not "**all**" include everybody in this passage? So this particular preacher has it all wrong.

The second "**unpopular**" doctrine which is also "**unbiblical**" is this statement: "*Predestination (God chooses some men but most He simply does not).*" Now we begin to understand the problem. This preacher has been miseducated in the doctrine of Calvinism which teaches that "*predestination*" means God **literally, arbitrarily** chose a few men to be saved while condemning the rest of mankind to damnation.

The word "*predestination*" **is** a biblical term, and it **does** mean "*to determine beforehand.*" But in the Bible it refers to the **kind** or **type** of person God predetermined would be saved. He did not arbitrarily choose a *specific individual*, but a *specific kind* of person to be saved. That person is the one who humbly comes to God, believes and obeys the Gospel and is washed from his sins by the blood of Christ. Be careful, dear friends, when you read and study the Bible! Don't let others deceive you.

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