A Chronological Survey of the Calvinism/Arminianism Controversy in the SBC
Researched and Compiled by Timmy Brister

There is no learned man but will confess that he hat much profited by reading controversies -- his senses awakened, his judgment sharpened, and the truth which he holds more firmly established. All controversy being permitted, falsehood will appear more false, and truth the more true.


Top 12 Events in the Controversy (chronologically and according to Timmy Brister)

1. 1978 Ernest Reisinger and Fred Malone begin the “Boyce Project”— a goal to republish James P. Boyce’s Abstract of Theology and distribute it to every graduate of each of SBC’s six seminaries

2. 1986 By His Grace and for His Glory: A Historical, Theological and Practical Study of the Doctrines of Grace in Baptist Life by Dr. Tom Nettles first published


4. March 26, 1997 Dr. William Estep attacks Calvinism in his article, “Doctrines Lead to ‘Dunghill’ Prof Warns”

5. April 2005 Steve W. Lemke, provost of NOBTS, calls out Founders churches and warns of hyper-Calvinism in his paper “The Future of Southern Baptists as Evangelicals”

6. June 20, 2005 Dr. Johnny Hunt, Pastor of FBC Woodstock, GA speaks out against election at the annual Pastor’s Conference

7. July 10, 2005 Dr. Bobby Welch, President of SBC, argues that Calvinism is harmful to Great Commission in his church’s newsletter (“Calvinism and Christ’s Great Commission”) no longer available online

8. February 14, 2006 Caner brothers react on Founders blog regarding Johnny Hunt being nominated for President of SBC

9. March 9, 2006 Malcolm Yarnell gives Founders Day address at SWBTS entitled “The Heart of a Baptist”

10. April 26-28, 2006 First Together for the Gospel Conference held in Louisville, KY with 3,000+ Reformed ministers present

11. June 6, 2006 Drs. Albert Mohler and Paige Patterson discuss “Reaching Today’s World Through Differing Views of Election” (Audio streaming session 1 and session 2); PDF opening comments (session 1 and session 2)


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The Timeline of Events:


Tom Ascol writes, “From the Protestant Reformation to the Southern Baptist Convention: What Hath Geneva to Do with Nashville?”

1978 Ernest Reisinger and Fred Malone begin the “Boyce Project” — a goal to republish James P. Boyce’s *Abstract of Theology* and distribute it to every graduate of each of SBC’s six seminaries.


Summer 1983 *Founders Ministries* begins.

1986 *By His Grace and For His Glory: A Historical, Theological and Practical Study of the Doctrines of Grace in Baptist Life* by Dr. Tom Nettles first published.

1988 *Southern Baptists and the Doctrine of Election* by Robert Selph is published by Gano Books (five succeeding reprints).

May 31, 1991 *Winds of Doctrines* by W. Wiley Richards, professor at Florida Baptist Theological College, is published as an attempt to counter Nettles’ *By His Grace and For His Glory*.


1995 Patrick Hues Mell’s *A Southern Baptist Looks at Predestination* is reprinted by Sprinkle Publications.

January 5, 1995 Frank Stagg laments of resurgence of Calvinism at SBTS under Mohler’s leadership in his article “Theological Institutions and the J. P. Boyce Legacy” in *The Baptist Record* (Mississippi state paper).

January 16, 1995 Wayne Grudem’s *Systematic Theology* first published and soon becomes main textbook in all SBTS seminaries.
January 19, 1995  Dr. Albert Mohler writes, “Abstract of Principles Provides Theological Accountability” in The Baptist Record


Spring 1995  Ernest Reisinger writes, “What Should We Think of Evangelism and Calvinism?” in Founders Journal


June 1, 1995  Glenn Brown writes, “Salvation for All or Only for the Elect?” in Baptist Messenger (Oklahoma state paper)

July 25-28, 1995  13th Annual Founders Conference held at Samford University featuring Drs. Timothy George, Al Mohler, Tom Nettles, Donald Whitney, Mark Dever, and Mark Coppenger. Other speakers included Tom and Bill Ascol, Walter Johnson, and Fred Malone. Mohler’s address was, “J. Boyce and Renewal in Theological Education.”

August 16, 1995  Presnall Wood writes, “Nothing Wrong with ‘Whosoever Will’” in Baptist Standard

September 14, 1995  Dwayne Hastings writes, “Calvinist or Arminian? Argument Empty, Vines Says” (Jerry Vines that is)

Summer 1996  “The Ascent of Lost Man in Southern Baptist Preaching” by Dr. Mark Coppenger

Spring 1997  Fisher Humphreys writes “Southern Baptists and Calvinism” in Theological Educator

March 26, 1997  Dr. William Estep attacks Calvinism in his article, “Doctrines Lead to ‘Dunghill Prof Warns’” in Baptist Standard

April 9, 1997  Baptist Standard, “Readers Respond to Story on Calvinism” in Letters to the Editor

April 16, 1997  Baptist Standard, “Estep and Calvinism: Against and For” in Letters to the Editor

April 29, 1997  Dr. Al Mohler writes in Western Recorder, “Counterpoint: Calvinism Leads to Renewal in SBC” as rebuttal to Dr. William Estep

Summer 1997  Dr. Al Mohler responds “The Reformation of Doctrine and Renewal of the Church”

Summer 1997  Dr. Roger Nicole responds in an open letter in Founders Journal

Summer 1997  Tom Ascol responds “Do Doctrines Really lead to Dunghill?” in Founders Journal

Summer 1997  James White responds “Doctrines Lead to Solid Biblical Theology”

May 1997  Baptist Banner (VA) has article by Tom Ascol, “A Response to Dr. William Estep’s Article ‘Doctrines Lead to Dunghill’”

May 1, 1997  *A Foundation for the Future: The Southern Baptist Message and Mission* is published

August 11, 1997  Roy Fish preaches against Calvinism at Cottage Hill Baptist Church called “The C-Word (Calvinism)”

Fall 1997  Tom Nettles asks, “Are Calvinists Hyper?” in *Founders Journal*

September 9, 1997  Mark Wingfield writes, “Will Kentucky Churches Buy Calvinism?” in *Western Recorder* (Kentucky state paper)

September 19, 1997  Baptist Press, “Editor’s Critique of Calvinism Prompts Challenges in Return” by Art Toalston

September 23, 1997  Tom Ascol writes, “Doctrinal Integrity Restored at Southern Seminary” in *Western Recorder*

October 6, 1997  *Christianity Today* publishes article, “Calvinism Resurging Among SBC’s Young Elites” written by Keith Hinson

November 10, 1997  Dr. Adrian Rogers gives an address at Bellevue Baptist entitled “Why I am Not a Five Point Calvinist” which was a forerunner for calling “five-point Calvinism” “hyper-Calvinism.”

November 12, 1997  Dr. Jesse Fletcher argues “Calvinism Is Longstanding Baptist Dispute” in Baptist Press *(also in Baptist Standard)*

November 20, 1997  *Baptist Record* article, “Baptist Calvinism Debate Stirring Anew”

1998  *IX Marks Ministries* begins

March 19, 1998  *Baptists Today* carries guest editorial by Wayne Nicholson, “Calvinism Takes Toll on Seminary Faculty, Students” in reference to The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

August 1, 1998  Millard Erickson’s *Christian Theology* republished in one edition *(2nd edition)* becomes main theological textbook in seminaries with Grudem

September 11, 1998  Russell D. Moore writes for Baptist Press, “Conservatives Stand Together on Doctrine of Election, Patterson Says” where Dr. Paige Patterson spoke at SBTS chapel from Rom. 8:29-30

March 10, 1999  Baptist Press article by Robyn Little, “Speaker Challenges Calvinism as not Reflecting God’s Grace,” referencing Larry Ashlock’s caricature of Calvinism

June 19, 1999  *World* magazine has column by Edward Plowman entitled “Choosing Calvinism?: Reformation-minded Southern Baptists Seek to Return the SBC to Its Historic Roots” highlighting Founders Ministries

August 5, 1999  *The Other Side of Calvinism* by Laurence Vance is published against Calvinism

November 15, 1999  Dr. Paige Patterson warns against Calvinism detracting from evangelism

2000  *Trouble with TULIP: A Closer Examination of the Five Points of Calvinism* by Frank Page published

2000  *Amazing Grace: God’s Initiative – Our Response* by Timothy George published by LifeWay (ROSE acrostic)

March 1, 2000  *Still Sovereign: Contemporary Perspectives on Election, Foreknowledge, and Grace* by Drs. Tom Schreiner and Bruce Ware published as a condensed version of *The Grace of God, The Bondage of the Will* (2 vol.)

Spring 2000  Ernest Reisinger asks, “Will Calvinism Kill Evangelism?” in *Founders Journal*

April 17, 2000  Mark Wingfield, editor of *Baptist Standard*, writes “Mullins scholars see Calvinism behind Mohler’s speech”

April 18, 2000  Marv Knox asks, “Do We Need Slaves and a Pope?” in *The Baptist Standard* as an attack on Dr. Mohler

April 24, 2000  Freddie Gage, SBC evangelist writes article in *Baptist Standard* attacking Calvinism

May 15, 2000  *The Potter’s Freedom* by James White is published as a rebuttal to Geisler’s *Chosen But Free*

September 2000 (?)  Mark Wingfield writes, “Co-Founder of SBC Takeover Willing to Tolerate Calvinism” against Dr. Mohler in Associated Baptist Press
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 2000</td>
<td><em>God So Loved the World</em> by Fisher Humphreys is published and centers its attack on Calvinism</td>
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<td>November 23, 2000</td>
<td>Loyd Melton writes, “<em>What Is Calvinism?</em>” in the <em>Baptist Courier</em></td>
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<td>November 26, 2000</td>
<td>Greenville, SC news reports, “<em>Calvinism Creates Baptist Dissention</em>” which includes men</td>
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<td>Summer 2001</td>
<td>Tom Ascol writes in <em>Founders Journal</em> “<em>Calvinism, Evangelism, &amp; Founders Ministries</em>”</td>
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<td>August 1, 2001</td>
<td><em>Chosen but Free</em> (updated) by Norm Geisler is published and calls historical Calvinism “extreme Calvinism”</td>
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<td>October 13, 2001</td>
<td>Dr. Terry Young, NOBTS [reviews <em>God So Loved the World</em> by Humphreys and Robertson]</td>
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<td>November 15, 2001</td>
<td>Baptist Press reports, “<em>Patterson, Pressler Caution Baptist Against Detractions from Evangelism</em>” (namely Calvinism)</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td><em>What Love Is This? Calvinism’s Misrepresentation of God</em> by Dave Hunt is published (full of errors)</td>
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<td>May 16, 2002</td>
<td>James White responds, “<em>Blinded by Tradition: An Open Letter to Dave Hunt</em>”</td>
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<td>n. d.</td>
<td><em>[Dave Hunt’s response to James White]</em></td>
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<td>March 2003</td>
<td>Phil Johnson responds, “<em>A Response to Dave Hunt’s Attack on the Doctrines of Grace</em>”</td>
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<td>January 7, 2002</td>
<td>Mercer University announces, “<em>Lecture on Baptists and Calvinism</em>” with Fisher Humphreys</td>
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<td>March 1, 2002</td>
<td><em>The Way We Were: How Southern Baptist Theology Has Changed and What It Means to Us</em> by Fisher Humphreys is published where he sees the decline of Calvinism in late 19th century not a “defection” but a “triumph”</td>
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<td>July 1, 2002</td>
<td>Mark Wingfield writes, “<em>Session Explores Different Views of Calvinism</em>” in <em>Baptist Standard</em> highlighting Fisher Humphreys and his view of “traditional Baptists” over against Calvinists</td>
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<td>January 13, 2003</td>
<td>Dr. Elmer Towns, dean at Liberty University, writes against doctrines of grace and Dr. Mohler</td>
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<td>February 20, 2003</td>
<td>Jim Brown writes, “<em>Improper View of ‘Election’ Hinders Evangelism, Baptist Theologian Says</em>” in Agape Press</td>
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April 26, 2004  Steve Hays responds, “Selective Certainties” on Triablogue

March 27, 2003  Associated Baptist Press reports, “Calvinism Making a Comeback on Some College Campuses”

February 4, 2004  *Debating Calvinism* by James White and Dave Hunt is published

February 10, 2004  Dr. David S. Dockery, president of Union University, lectures on “Calvinism, Arminianism, and Southern Baptist Evangelism” at the PreachingPoints Conference held at UU (in his lecture, Dockery addresses key SBC leaders that correspond to the rise and fall of Calvinism in the SBC)

February 19, 2004  Baptist Press reports, “Dockery Voices Common Ground for Calvinists, Arminian Views”

March 2-4, 2004  Dr. Paige Patterson *preaches (three messages) on sovereignty of God and human responsibility* at NOBTS chapel (Gurney Lectures on Evangelism)

March 22, 2004  Phillip E. Thompson writes “Baptists and ‘Calvinism’” in Baptist History and Heritage

Spring 2004  Michael E. Williams Sr. writes “The Influence of Calvinism on Colonial Baptists”

Spring 2004  Nathan Finn and C. Douglas Weaver write “Youth for Calvin: Reformed Theology and Southern Baptist Collegians”

October 1, 2004  *What Love Is This?* by Dave Hunt is updated and revised

April 2005  Steve W. Lemke, provost of NOBTS, calls out Founders churches and warns of hyper-Calvinism in his paper “The Future of Southern Baptists as Evangelicals”

July 27, 2005  Joe Thorn responds, “Hyper Calvinism Criticism”

July 28, 2005  Tom Ascol responds, “President Bobby Welch, Dr. Steve Lemke, Southern Baptists and Calvinism, Part 1”

July 28, 2005  Tom Ascol responds, “President Bobby Welch, Dr. Steve Lemke, Southern Baptists and Calvinism, Part 2”

July 29, 2005  Tom Ascol responds, “President Bobby Welch, Dr. Steve Lemke, Southern Baptists and Calvinism, Part 3”

August 1, 2005  Ray Van Neste responds on Steve Lemke’s article
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<td>August 1, 2005</td>
<td>Tom Ascol responds, “Final Observations on the Misrepresentations of Bobby Welch and Steve Lemke”</td>
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<td>April 19, 2005</td>
<td>Fisher Humphreys gives address, “Calvinism and Theology Today” at Mercer University where he argues that traditional Baptists (non-Reformed) are more biblical than Calvinists who misunderstand God’s love, foreknowledge, etc.</td>
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<td>June 12, 2005</td>
<td>Dr. Jack Graham, Pastor of Prestenwood Baptist Church, preaches “The Truth About Grace” attacking Calvinism</td>
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<td>August 28, 2005</td>
<td>Tom Ascol responds Part I</td>
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<td>August 31, 2005</td>
<td>Tom Ascol responds Part II</td>
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<td>September 27, 2005</td>
<td>James White responds Part I</td>
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<td>September 30, 2005</td>
<td>James White responds Part II</td>
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<td>October 4, 2005</td>
<td>James White responds Part III</td>
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<td>October 19, 2005</td>
<td>Timmy Brister contests Graham speaking at SBTS chapel Part I</td>
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<td>July 12, 2005</td>
<td>Don Elbourne responds, “Johnny Hunt on Election” (Hunt chimes in the comments)</td>
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<td>August 4, 2005</td>
<td>Don Elbourne responds, “Johnny Hunt, Election, and Matthew 18”</td>
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<td>November 7, 2005</td>
<td>Nathan White responds, “Johnny Hunt on the Sovereignty of God”</td>
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<td>November 17, 2005</td>
<td>Nathan White responds, “Johnny Hunt Continued: 3rd and Final Review”</td>
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<td>July 10, 2005</td>
<td>Dr. Bobby Welch, President of SBC, argues that Calvinism is harmful to Great Commission in his church’s newsletter (“Calvinism and Christ’s Great Commission”) no longer available online</td>
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<td>July 21, 2005</td>
<td>Timmy Brister writes, “Bobby and David Planting TULIPS”</td>
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<td>July 26, 2005</td>
<td>Joe Thorn responds, “Anti-Calvinism”</td>
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<td>July 27, 2005</td>
<td>Paul Lamey asks, “Should Baptists Fear This Man?” (John Calvin)</td>
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<td>July 15, 2005</td>
<td>Founders Ministries Blog starts under the penmanship of Tom Ascol</td>
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<td>July 24, 2005</td>
<td>Tom Ascol asks, “BaptistFire—Who Are These People and Why Do They Hide?”</td>
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August 18, 2005  Timmy Brister writes, “Why I Am not Surprised”

September 16, 2005  Tom Ascol writes about “Calvinism’s Strength and Weakness”

September 16, 2005  Joe Carter addresses “Calvinism and Contradictions” at Evangelical Outpost

September 25, 2005  Scott Slayton begins “Robertson and Humphreys Review” of God So Loved the World

October 4, 2005  Scott Slayton writes, “For God So Loved the World Part 2” continuing review

October 7, 2005  Scott Slayton writes, “For God So Loved the World Part 3”

October 12, 2005  Tom Ascol reports on Bailey Smith’s “Save-a-soul-a-month ministry” and scrutinizes the results

October 14, 2005  Scott Slayton writes, “For God So Loved the World Part 4”

October 16, 2005  Dr. Steve Gaines, Pastor Bellevue Baptist Church, preaches “I Believe in Salvation” with several attacks on Calvinism

October 24, 2005  Tom Ascol responds “Steve Gaines on Calvinism”

October 30, 2005  Gene Bridges writes, “Observations and Questions for Southern Baptist Synergists”

November 29, 2005  Roy Fish’s sermon “The C-Word” passed out at Preaching Conference in Missouri

December 7, 2005  Gene Bridges writes, “Southern Baptist History and Calvinism” Part One: The Sandy Creek Tradition

December 8, 2005  Gene Bridges writes, “Southern Baptist History and Calvinism” Part Two: Objections to Sandy Creek Tradition as Staunch Calvinists

2006  20th Anniversary edition of By His Grace and For His Glory is revised, expanded, and published

January 30, 2006  Florida pastor, Joel McDuffie Jr. wonders if Calvin is in heaven in an article in Northwest Florida Daily News

January 30, 2006  Tom Ascol responds, “Is John Calvin in Heaven?”

February 2, 2006  Tom Ascol responds, “More from Joel McDuffie on John Calvin”

February 3, 2006  Tom Ascol responds, “McDuffie—a Sad Postscript”
February 2006 John Connell sends letter to President Bobby Welch requesting a study of “Calvinism’s current impact on SBC churches as well as its implications for the future of the great Convention”

February 6, 2006 “Johnny Hunt” on the Calvinist Gadfly

February 14, 2006 Caner brothers react on Founders blog regarding Johnny Hunt being nominated for President of SBC

February 16, 2006 Gene Bridges responds, “Founders Ministry Has Been Caned! News at 11!”
February 1, 2006 Daniel Randle responds, “John Piper Is a Hyper-Calvinist!”
February 18, 2006 Timmy Brister responds, “Together for the Truth: Responding to Two Brothers Foaming Out of the Mouth”
February 18, 2006 Joe Thorn responds, “The Real Problem”
February 22, 2006 James White responds, “Headed Home”
February 24, 2006 James White responds, “If You Dare Speak Up…”
March 27, 2006 James White responds, “Baptists and Calvinism: A Debate at the New Thomas Road Baptist Church, Lynchburg, Virginia”
March 28, 2006 Tom Ascol responds, “The Debate”
March 29, 2006 James White responds, “Tom Ascol on the Lynchburg Debate”
April 6, 2006 Tom Ascol responds, “The Calvinist Virus”
April 12, 2006 James White responds, “Dr. Caner Preached on “Hyper Calvinism” at Thomas Road Baptist Church”
April 13, 2006 Tom Ascol responds, “Why Dr. Caner Thinks He Is Predestined never to be a Calvinist”
April 13, 2006 James White responds, “Be Listening Today: Dr. Caner’s Sermon Examined”
April 18, 2006 James White responds, “Today on the Dividing Line” (Responding to Caner on Romans 9)
April 26, 2006 James White responds, “Of Debates and the Silent Treatment”
May 1, 2006 James White responds, “Does Omnibenevolence Mean Unibenevolence?”
May 15, 2006 Tom Ascol responds, “Update on the Caner ‘debate’”

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May 15, 2006  James White responds, “Let the People of God Judge”
May 16, 2006  James White responds, “Caner Correspondence File”
June 6, 2006  Tom Ascol responds, “Ergun Caner ‘Predestined Not to Be a Hyper-Calvinist’”
June 6, 2006  James White responds, “Response to Dr. Caner on Falwell.com”
June 6, 2006  Gene Bridges responds, “Caner on Calvinism”
June 8, 2006  James White responds, “Continued Response to Dr. Caner”
June 9, 2006  James White responds, “Final Response to Dr. Caner on Falwell.com”
June 13, 2006  James White responds, “Letter to Dr. O’Donnell and the Caners, 06/13/06”
June 22, 2006  James White responds, “Wow, What a Day”
June 22, 2006  James White responds, “Major Developments in the Lynchburg Debate Saga UPDATED”
June 23, 2006  James White responds, “This Speaks for Itself”
June 23, 2006  James White responds, “I’m at a Loss for Words”
June 26, 2006  James White responds, “In the Interests of Consistency”
June 26, 2006  Tom Ascol responds, “Update #2 on the Caner ‘Debate’”
June 27, 2006  James White responds, “By the Way . . .”
June 28, 2006  James White responds, “Monday Morning Quarterbacks”
June 29, 2006  James White responds, “Apology and Clarification”
July 11, 2006  James White responds, “It Is Good to be Home / A Request”
July 13, 2006  James White responds, “Taking a Fresh Look”
July 13, 2006  James White responds, “No Title”
July 14, 2006  James White responds, “Friday Morning Odds and Ends”
September 6, 2006  James White responds, “Odds and Ends”
September 19, 2006  James White responds, “Less Than a Month to Go”
September 19, 2006  Tom Ascol responds, “The Upcoming Debate at Lynchburg”
October 6, 2006  Tom Ascol responds, “Debate? What Debate?”
October 6, 2006  James White responds, “A Prayer Request”
October 6, 2006  James White responds, “Regarding the Lynchburg Situation”
October 6, 2006  James White responds, “There Will Be No Debate in Lynchburg on October 16”
October 8, 2006  James White responds, “Cancellation Official”
October 8, 2006    Tom Ascol responds, “It’s Official: No Debate October 16”
October 9, 2006    James White responds, “After Many Weeks of Silence . . .”
October 9, 2006    James White responds, “The Caner Spin”
October 9, 2006    James White responds, “Shining a Little Light on Ergun Caner”
October 10, 2006   James White responds, “Morning Developments”
October 10, 2006   James White responds, “Today on the DL” (White and Ascol discuss fallout)
October 11, 2006   Timmy Brister responds, “Chronicling the Greatest Debate That Never Happened”
October 12, 2006   James White responds, “Sad, Sad Day in Lynchburg”
October 18, 2006   BP article, “Baptists & Calvinism: Event Called Off, but not Debate”

March 2, 2006    Evan May writes, “Response to Elmer Towns Part 1” (what Elmer Towns wrote)
March 4, 2006    Gene Bridges writes, “The Sound of One Hand Clapping, a Clanging Cymbal”
March 9, 2006    Timmy Brister reports, “Newsflash: The Caner Brothers United with BaptistFire Against Those Evil Calvinists!”
March 9, 2006    Malcolm Yarnell gives Founders Day address at SWBTS entitled “The Heart of a Baptist” again warning of the threat of “Hyper-Calvinism in the SBC”
March 11, 2006   Gene Bridges responds, “More Mixed Signals from the SBC”
March 12, 2006   Tom Ascol responds, “Malcolm Yarnell’s ‘The Heart of a Baptist,’ Part 1”
March 14, 2006   Tom Ascol responds, “The Heart of a Baptist Part 3: an Appreciation, a Critique, and a Concern”
March 15, 2006   Malcolm Yarnell responds, “Dr. Yarnell’s Gracious Response”
March 16, 2006   Timmy Brister reports that “BaptistFire Calls Calvinists Out of the SBC”
April 2006    Don Cass, director of evangelism of SBTC sent a packet consisting of Roy Fish’s “C-Word” sermon along with a message by Paige Patterson to all SBTC as an attempt to influence Texas pastors against Calvinism

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April 2006  “The TULIP of Calvinism in Light of History and the Baptist Faith and Message” by Malcolm Yarnell in SBC Life
April 2, 2006  Tom Ascol responds, “Malcolm Yarnell on Calvinism”
April 3, 2006  Gene Bridges responds to Malcolm Yarnell in Triablogue “The TULIP of Calvinism in Light of History and the Baptist Faith and Message by Dr. Malcolm Yarnell”
April 6, 2006  Malcolm Yarnell responds, “A Letter from Malcolm Yarnell”

April 2006  “Divine Sovereignty and Human Responsibility” by Dr. Danny Akin in SBC Life
March 2, 2006  Joe Thorn responds, “Akin on Calvinism”
March 5, 2006  Tom Ascol responds, “Danny Akin on Southern Baptists and Calvinism”

April 23, 2006  Timmy Brister reports on Dr. Bill Wilks who attacked Calvinism at a NOBTS Birmingham extension chapel service

April 26-28, 2006  First Together for the Gospel Conference held in Louisville, KY with 3,000+ Reformed ministers present

May 1, 2006  Strange BaptistFire launched to critique BaptistFire

May 11, 2006  BaptistFire disappears from the Internet

May 16, 2006  Timmy Brister writes, “SBC, the Presidency, and HyperCalvinism”


May 26, 2006  Baptist Press reports on Frank Page’s commitment to cooperate with Calvinists in the SBC

May 26, 2006  Roger Olson writes, “God Is Sovereign over His Sovereignty” in The Baptist Standard

May 31, 2006  Tom Ascol writes, “Dishonest Calvinists (?) and the Call for Integrity”

June 2006  Jason Robertson reports, “John Phillips Calls Calvinism Monstrous”

June 1, 2006  Strange BaptistFire reflects on the current politically correct position for Calvinists in the SBC

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June 5, 2006  Jeff Riddle provides lengthy review of Frank Page’s book, *Trouble with Tulip: A Closer Examination of the Five Points of Calvinism*

June 5, 2006  Gene Bridges at Strange BaptistFire offers “No Apology.”

**June 6, 2006**  Drs. Albert Mohler and Paige Patterson discuss “Reaching Today’s World Through Differing Views of Election” (Audio streaming [session 1](#) and [session 2](#)); PDF opening comments ([session 1](#) and [session 2](#))


June 12, 2006  Timmy Brister writes in response to Dick Lincoln preaching against the “Insidious Doctrine of Election”

June 13, 2006  On SBC.Net Michael Foust writes, “Patterson, Mohler: Calvinism Shouldn’t Divide Southern Baptists”

June 15, 2006  Ken Camp writes, “Will Election of SBC President Deal Blow to Neo-Calvinism?” in Associated Baptist Press

June 16, 2006  David Roach of Baptist Press writes, “Major on the Majors, Chapman Exhorts Southern Baptists” arguing that Calvinism should he debated in the academy and not in the churches

July 23, 2006  Tom Ascol writes, “Confessional Integrity and Theological Education, Part 1”

July 24, 2006  Tom Ascol writes, “Confessional Integrity and Theological Education, Part 2”

July 25, 2006  Tom Ascol writes, “Confessional Integrity and Theological Education, Part 3”

July 31, 2006  *Baptist Press* reports of Frank Page and the “tumultuous days” that lie ahead for the Calvinism and the SBC”

**August 22, 2006**  “The Young, Restless, and Reformed: Calvinism Is Making a Comeback—and Shaking up the Church” by Collin Hansen in *Christianity Today*

August 22, 2006  Nathan White responds, “Fad, Driven, Calvinism.”

August 23, 2006  Tom Ascol responds, “Calvinism’s ‘Comeback’ and the Reformation We Need”

September 1, 2006  Timmy Brister responds, “Reflections on Young, Restless, and Reformed Article”
August 14, 2006 Timmy Brister, “What Is a True Calvinist?”

September 18, 2006 Baptist Press, “10 Percent of SBC Pastors Call Themselves 5-Point Calvinists”
September 18, 2006 Tom Ascol responds, “Lifeway: 10% of SBC Pastors Are 5 Point Calvinists”
September 19, 2006 Timmy Brister responds, “Five Point Calvinists in the SBC”

September 27, 2006 Lonnie Wilkey, editor Baptist Reflector writes article, “Calvinists Have No Sense of Urgency—Jesus Did”
September 27, 2006 Tom Ascol responds, “Calvinism as I See It and the Problems That It Causes”
September 28, 2006 Timmy Brister responds, “Same Ole, Same Ole”

Fall 2006 Gene Bridges writes in Founders Journal, “The Raw Calvinism of the North Carolina Separates of the Sandy Creek Tradition”

October 8, 2006 Jerry Vines preaches at First Baptist Woodstock “Calvinism: A Baptist and His Election”
October 10, 2006 Scott Hill responds, “Baptist Battles Against Calvinism”
October 16, 2006 Tom Ascol responds, “Vines on Calvinism”
October 18, 2006 Strange BaptistFire introduces a critique of Vine’s message
October 18, 2006 Denny Burk responds, “Southern Baptists Continue Debate Over Calvinism”
October 19, 2006 Strange BaptistFire responds, “‘Now Here’s the Most Objectionable, Probably, of All of Them’”
October 24, 2006 Strange BaptistFire responds, “The Extent of the Atonement in Baptist Hymnody”
October 27, 2006 Strange BaptistFire responds, “The Proof-Texts”
October 31, 2006 Strange BaptistFire responds, “Was the Death of Christ a Failure?”
November 27, 2006 Strange BaptistFire responds, “Tabula Predestinationis Bezae Contra Canerum et Pattersonum et Vineum”

October 11, 2006 Ergun Caner makes the claim, “Calvinists Are Worse Than Muslims” on his blog

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October 17, 2006  Strange BaptistFire responds to Ergun Caner, “Ergun Caner ‘turned Romans 9 Upside Down’”

October 18, 2006  Guest columnist for Baptist & Reflector Reggie Weems writes, “Regardless of Position, It is Time for a Cease Fire”

October 26, 2006  Bill Harrell, chairman of Executive Committee of SBC, says Calvinism must be dealt with in SBC in Christian Index

October 31, 2006  Timmy Brister responds, “Here We Go Again”

October 31, 2006  Tom Ascol responds, “SBC Exec Com Chairman on the ‘problem of Calvinism’ in the SBC”

November 13, 2006  Bill Curtis responds with an open letter to Southern Baptists in the Baptist Courier

November 23, 2006  Kurt Smith responds, “Baptist Identity and Calvinism” in the Christian Index

October 30, 2006  Arminian Theology: Myths and Realities by Roger Olson published to seemingly correct notions of Arminianism

November 2006  Perspective on Election: Five Views edited by Chad Brand published by B&H Academic

November 7, 2006  Dr. Andy Davis preaches at SBTS chapel on “Divine Sovereignty and Human Responsibility”

November 8, 2006  James P. Boyce’s Abstract of Systematic Theology is published by Founders Press

November 23, 2006  Nelson Price, pastor and evangelist, writes an article “Evangelical Calvinism Is an Oxymoron” in Christian Index

November 26, 2006  Tom Ascol responds, “Humpty Dumpty Theology” [edited]

November 27, 2006  Timmy Brister responds, “Nelson Price, Oxymorons, and Morons”

November 28, 2006  James White responds, “A Letter to Nelson Price” and on his radio show as well

December 7, 2006  Tom Nettles responds, “An Historical Perspective of Calvinism” in The Christian Index

January 16, 2007  Strange BaptistFire responds, “Technically, Sin IS Still the Issue”

December 3, 2006  Dr. Danny Akin writes a discerning rebuttal entitled “A Plea for Theological Responsibility and Integrity”

December 10, 2006  Nathan Finn compilation post of his series, “What Ails the SBC”

January 25, 2007  Timmy Brister interviews Dr. David Dockery on Calvinism in the SBC

February 17, 2007  Dr. Timothy George argues asks “Are Southern Baptists Calvinists?”
March 15, 2007  Morris Chapman, CEO of Executive Committee of SBC interviewed about Calvinism on NOBTS blog

April 2007  Paul Helm reviews Roger Olson’s Arminian Theology at Reformation 21

April 13, 2007  Jerry Falwell preaches at Liberty University’s Convocation, calling Limited Atonement “Heresy”
April 14, 2007  Tom Ascol reports, “Jerry Falwell’s Friday the 13th Declaration: Limited Atonement Is Heresy”
April 16, 2007  James White responds, “Jerry Falwell Identifies Calvinism as Heresy” (with YouTube video)
April 16, 2007  Wade Burleson responds, “We’ve More in Common with Boyce than Falwell”

April 16, 2007  Timmy Brister probes the blogosphere on the question, “Why Are You Reformed? Your Top 5 Reasons”

May 23-24, 2007  First Gospel Coalition Conference held at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School bringing together the evangelical Reformed community together (founding documents)

June 2007  John Sullivan and Eddie McClelland of the Florida Baptist Convention used SBC money to fund the sending of four DVD messages by Jerry Vines entitled “Baptist Battles” used as a means of influencing FBC pastors with an anti-Calvinistic agenda
June 6, 2007  Tom Ascol responds, “Florida Pastors Sent Anti-Calvinistic Propaganda”
June 6, 2007  Roy Hargrave responds, “An Open Letter of Rebuttal to Jerry Vines’ Sermon Against Calvinism”
June 6, 2007  Bill Lollar responds, “Getting Hot as Hell in Florida for SBC Calvinists”
June 6, 2007  Bill Lollar posts letter by Sullivan and McClelland online
June 7, 2007  Tom Ascol responds, “Denominational Integrity and Controversy in the Florida Baptist Convention”
June 8, 2007  Associated Baptist Press writes, “Calvinist Churches Targeted by Florida Baptist Convention”

June 5, 2007  Timmy Brister writes, “Connellism Versus Calvinism: You Be the Judge” and exposes the anti-Reformed agenda of Dr. John Connell who submitted the 2006 motion to examine the effects of Calvinism in the SBC

June 11, 2007  Dr. Mark Coppenger and Dr. Danny Akin debate Calvinism at SBC Annual Meeting in San Antonio on Dr. Jerry Johnson radio program (part one, part two, part three, part four, part five, part six)
Tom Ascol announces “Building Bridges: Southern Baptists and Calvinism” – a conference jointly sponsored by Founders Ministers and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary to be held at Ridgecrest Conference Center in North Carolina on November 26-28, 2007.

Outreach Magazine reports “America’s 2007 Top 25 Multiplying Churches” where three of the top five churches are Reformed

Mark Dever composes a series entitled “Where’d All These Calvinists Come From?”

Charles Spurgeon (1)
Martyn Lloyd-Jones (2)
Banner of Truth Trust (3)
Evangelism Explosion (and D. James Kennedy) (4)
Inerrancy Controversy (5)
Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) (6)
J.I. Packer (7)
R.C. Sproul and John MacArthur (8)
John Piper (9)
The Rise of Secularism and Decline of Christian Nominalism (10)

Timmy Brister live-blogs National Founders Conference message, “Founders Ministries, Theology, and the Current SBC” delivered by Tom Ascol

The Alabama Baptist provides “A Resource” special edition on “Dortian Calvinism”

Understanding Calvinism: A Resource (editorial) - Bob Terry

Articles by Dr. James Leo Garrett:
A question facing Baptist churches
Calvinism: What does it mean?
Does Dortian Calvinism have weight of Scripture in its favor?
Have Baptists always been Dortian Calvinists in their confessions of faith?
How prominent Baptists stack up
What are the alternatives to Dortian Calvinism?

Timmy Brister responds, “The Alabama Baptist and Dortian Calvinism: Response 1”
Timmy Brister responds, “The Alabama Baptist and Dortian Calvinism: Response 2”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Author/Respondent</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 8, 2007</td>
<td>Timmy Brister</td>
<td>The Alabama Baptist and Dortian Calvinism: Response 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 9, 2007</td>
<td>Timmy Brister</td>
<td>The Alabama Baptist and Dortian Calvinism: Response 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 12, 2007</td>
<td>Tom Ascol</td>
<td>Garrett on Calvinism in the Alabama Baptist, Pt. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 13, 2007</td>
<td>Peter Lumpkins</td>
<td>Ascol on Garrett on Calvinism in the Alabama Baptist, Pt. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 14, 2007</td>
<td>Andrew Lindsey</td>
<td>Calvinism: What Does It Mean?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 15, 2007</td>
<td>Tom Ascol</td>
<td>Garrett on Calvinism in the Alabama Baptist, Pt. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 20, 2007</td>
<td>Peter Lumpkins</td>
<td>Ascol on Garrett on Calvinism in the Alabama Baptist, Pt. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 17, 2007</td>
<td>Andrew Lindsey</td>
<td>Does Dortian Calvinism Have Weight of Scripture in Its Favor? (Part 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 23, 2007</td>
<td>Andrew Lindsey</td>
<td>Does Dortian Calvinism Have Weight of Scripture in Its Favor? (Part 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 27, 2007</td>
<td>Tom Ascol</td>
<td>Garrett on Calvinism in the Alabama Baptist, Pt. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 1, 2007</td>
<td>Andrew Lindsey</td>
<td>Does Dortian Calvinism Have Weight of Scripture in Its Favor? (Part 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 20, 2007</td>
<td>Andrew Lindsey</td>
<td>How Prominent Baptists Stack Up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 22, 2007</td>
<td>Andrew Lindsey</td>
<td>A Question Facing Baptist Churches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 3, 2007</td>
<td>Tom Ascol</td>
<td>Shares varied responses to the Amazing Grace DVD project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 3, 2007</td>
<td>Timmy Brister</td>
<td>Together for the Church—a plea for consensus among Southern Baptists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 10, 2007</td>
<td>Ed Stetzer</td>
<td>Provides the schedule for the upcoming “Building Bridges: Southern Baptist and Calvinism” Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 30, 2007</td>
<td>M. Jay Bennett</td>
<td>An SBC Pastor on the Crisis of Calvinism (pt. 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 30, 2007</td>
<td>M. Jay Bennett</td>
<td>An SBC Pastor on the Crisis of Calvinism (pt. 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2, 2007</td>
<td>M. Jay Bennett</td>
<td>An SBC Pastor on the Crisis of Calvinism (pt. 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 5, 2007</td>
<td>M. Jay Bennett</td>
<td>An SBC Pastor on the Crisis of Calvinism (pt. 4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 6, 2007</td>
<td>M. Jay Bennett</td>
<td>An SBC Pastor on the Crisis of Calvinism (pt. 5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
November 9, 2007  M. Jay Bennett writes, “An SBC Pastor on the Crisis of Calvinism (pt. 9)"

November 10, 2007  Nathan Finn probes the Reformed community for common stereotypes and caricatures of Calvinism

November 11, 2007  Tom Ascol reports that the Arbuckle Baptist Association (Oklahoma) passed a resolution "take a public stand against Reformed theology".  Click here for JPEG of resolution
November 11, 2007  Timmy Brister responds, “Setting the Record Straight about SBC Bridge Burning”

END  >> Updated Compilation Date: November 26, 2007

Additional:

Adrian Rogers Sermon: “Predestined to Hell? Absolutely Not!” sermon and booklet
Steve Lawson and Dauphin Way Baptist Church
Germantown Baptist Church and “elders”

Fisher Humphreys, “Calvinism and the Bible”
Fisher Humphreys, “Calvinism and Traditional Baptist Theology”
Fisher Humphreys, “Traditional Baptists and Calvinism” in Baptist History and Heritage
Laurence Vance, “Calvinism and the Baptists”
Michael Spender, “A Path Through Those Thorny TULIPS”
Links of James White Vs. Dave Hunt
Links of James White Vs. Norman Geisler
Major Contributing Influences of the Resurgence of Calvinism in the SBC

1. Ad Fontes and Sola Scriptura (sufficiency, exposition, exegesis of Scripture)
2. The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Al Mohler)
3. John Piper
4. Founders Ministries
   a. Founders Blog
   b. Founders Journal
   c. Founders Conferences
   d. Founders Press
5. IX Marks Ministries (Mark Dever)
6. 17th Century Puritanism
   a. John Owen
   b. Richard Baxter
7. Jonathan Edwards
8. Emphasis in Founders of SBC
   a. James P. Boyce
   b. John L. Dagg
   c. Basil Manly Jr.
   d. John A. Broadus
   e. Patrick Hues Mell
9. College Campus Ministries
   a. Reformed United Fellowship
   b. Campus Outreach
   c. Campus Crusade for Christ
10. Reformed Conferences
    a. Together for the Gospel
    b. Founders Conferences (Tom Ascol)
    c. Shepherd’s Conference (John MacArthur)
    d. Ligonier Conference (R.C. Sproul)
    e. New Attitude Conference (Josh Harris)
    f. Desiring God National Conference (John Piper)
11. The Blogosphere

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12. New Missional Movement (Tim Keller, Mark Driscoll, Ed Stetzer)
13. Discerning Reading of Poor Theological Scholarship

Major Contributing Influences of the Whipping of Calvinism in the SBC

1. The Arminianizing of the SBC by E.Y. Mullins, Dale Moody, and Herschel Hobbs
2. Preacher/Conference Circuit
   a. First Baptist Jacksonville Pastors Conference
   b. Bailey Smith Real Evangelism Conference
   c. Various State Evangelism Conferences and Pastor’s Conferences
   d. Speakers including Johnny Hunt, Jerry Vines, Bailey Smith, Adrian Rogers, Ted Traylor, Jamey Ragle, etc.
3. Church Growth Movement/Pragmatism
4. Liberal Theology in the Seminaries
5. Decisional Regeneration and Evangelistic Practices of Billy Graham

Monergism
Reformed Reader