

Comparing Hyper-marital doctrines to Hyper-Calvinism

by WmTipton

Assertions/Conclusions of this Article

This article will compare how some extreme doctrines that seemingly worship the covenant of marriage are quite similar to the heretical teachings of Hypercalvinism.

Supporting Evidence

(For more information, also read the next post "HyperCalvinism - God made God made me do it")

We will compare some of the passages that HyperCalvinists' use to show that Gods absolute sovereignty means that man is completely and utterly robbed of free will to do either right or wrong, or even make the decision to do either, and also show that Gods micromanagement of mankind, even to the extent of foreordaining every single act a man will ever make in his life, both evil and good.

This 'hyper' version of Calvinism basically uses passages that are VERY clear in what they say to show that man plays no part in his salvation or damnation at all, but is merely a puppet on a string that God forces even to rape and murder and then condemns that man for acts that were supposedly ordained by God that this man would commit.

One such passage is Romans 9.

We see in that chapter VERY clearly words that seem to back up this doctrine entirely. Instead of posting scripture, I'll leave it to the reader to examine the passages offered.

In Romans 9 we see things like God hating Esau and loving Jacob before either of these men were ever even born.

We also see the absolute statement that God will have mercy on whomever He wishes and has sovereign right to create some for glory and some for destruction, as His will sees fit.

In Romans 9 example is given also of Pharoah who was literally raised up to do Gods purpose. When you go back to read the story of Pharoah you will see that even when he was feeling to back off and let Israel go, God literally hardened his heart and kept him going after the Hebrews.

There are also such passages such as ones that state that we were elected from the foundations of the world (Eph 1:4)...others showing that man did not choose Him, but He chose us.

These scriptures can be very convincing in leading one to believe that man literally is foreordained to heaven or hell by God with no choice of his own by simply a drone put upon the earth in some grand play where God micro manages every minute detail even causing man to sin against Himself then damning to hell the man for not even having the will to play along.

These extremist marriage doctrines are basically exactly the same. They even use passages from the same letter, Romans, to push these cult-like doctrines

Lets look at some of these passages...

Here we seemingly might present that the individual is chosen before they are ever even born to honor or dishonor and they basically are not even allowed to question the matter.

(For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.

What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid.

For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth.

Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth.

Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will?

Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God?

Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus?

Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?

What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory

(Rom 9)

Pretty clearly stated. Is it 'true' as written or not ?

This is what happens when we do as some in these false hyper-marriage doctrines do and pick out passages that SEEM to say something that we want to push.

Now if we read the bolded part there without looking at the context we could very easily believe that it is speaking about individual predestination and that God is basically putting souls out on an assembly line, pre-deciding which individuals will go to heaven and which will go to hell and apparently it has nothing to do with whether the individual loves and accepts the Lord or not, but is strictly based upon Gods good humor.

If we pull PARTS of passages like these out of context it is very easy to misunderstand Gods word entirely.

What the above is talking about is the state of the Nation of Israel and what has happened with her. It is simply using a couple examples, such as Pharaoh, where God DID actually take more direct control because it served His purpose to do so.

This passage is not in any way, shape or form talking about the absolute predestination of EVERY individual in the history of man, but it can be made to seem is though that is the case.

Especially when taken along side passages such as these and without understanding the whole.

*But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, **because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation** through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:*

(2Th 2:13)

*According as **he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:*

(Eph 1:4)

Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

(Joh 15:16)

For many are called, but few are chosen.

(Mat 22:14)

And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days.

(Mar 13:20)

If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

(Joh 15:19)

There is a ton more and Ive a way to go before this article is finished, but I think you see the point. If we combine what is CLEARLY shown in Romans 9 with what is CLEARLY shown in the passages that follow its VERY easy to come to the conclusion based on quite a few passages (and Im not even remotely done yet) that God CHOOSES us, even against our will, before we are ever even born....from the foundation of the earth....and then literally makes us sin against Him if that is His will for us individually and then condemns us to hell and torment for doing what He basically forced us to do.

If you believe Im exaggerating, look around. There are doctrines out there that use these very passages that are quite clear in what they say as they are worded, and there are a ton more that I have still to get together and add here that run along this same train of thought. There are only a very few scriptures that ACTUALLY show that man does have what we call 'free will' to choose that would seem to contradict these above that seem to clearly present that WE dont decide anything...its already decided well before we are ever born.

This is how these hyper-marital doctrines work as well. They focus solely on passages that SEEM to say one thing, but arent being harmonized with the whole scope of information in scripture.

If we focus on what the scriptures above say at face value, then we really dont have much to worry about because it shows that God has chosen for us and we have no part to play in the matter at all. But then there is always the REST of the story...

2.0

Mans limited free will

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Assertions/Conclusions of this Article

To show that it is impossible that God forcibly 'controls' the actions of all men and women.

Supporting Evidence

Here we see Jesus telling Peter that he would deny Him three times before the next morning came.

Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.

(Mat 26:34 KJV)

G720

ἀρνέομαι

arneomai

ar-neh'-om-ahee

Perhaps from G1 (as a negative particle) and the middle of G4483; to contradict, that is, disavow, reject, abnegate: - deny, refuse.

Now, some false doctrines teach that God 'controls' mans actions and that man has no free will of himself. One internet source I recent came across said this

Forum poster: "And here is an example of God's will:

34 Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.

So in this person's mind GOD is the source of Peter's denying Christ. Rather than simply understanding that God foreknew it would happen, this person and their doctrine basically say that Peter did it for lack of choice in the matter. Meaning that GOD had to be the one causing Peter to deny Christ, ie God 'denied' Himself THROUGH the man Peter.

Im certain few will agree to the obvious conclusion, that their doctrinal view states that, but the conclusion is clear enough.

But we see that scripture says that He CANNOT deny Himself.

If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us: If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

(2Ti 2:12-13 KJV)

G533

ἀπαρνέομαι

aparneomai

ap-ar-neh'-om-ahee

From G575 and G720; to deny utterly, that is, disown, abstain: - deny.

Notice that 'deny' in the second verse is from G720, the word used in the first verse cited, so these words are very much related in intent. They aren't two entirely different concepts.

Christ is faithful. GOD is faithful. He CANNOT deny Himself....yet *IF* these false doctrines were true then we have a situation where GOD is directly 'denying' Himself THROUGH Peter *IF* GOD is controlling Peter in any way. This simply cannot be the case given that God CANNOT deny Himself.

God CANNOT go against His own nature and He cannot lie.

in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time itself,

(Tit 1:2 EMTV)

So it is against His nature to deny Himself, therefore He was not causing Peter to deny Him. He simply foreknew that it would occur.