

(KMG) In explaining why Calvinists should evangelize, some refer to those who believe in the strict tenets of Calvin as "hyper Calvinists". The below article was written by a follower of the teachings of Charles Spurgeon, a noted Baptist preacher.

Hyper-Calvinism...

...simply stated, is a doctrine that emphasizes divine sovereignty to the exclusion of human responsibility.

To call it "hyper-Calvinism" is something of a misnomer. It is actually a rejection of *historic* Calvinism. Hyper-Calvinism entails a denial of what is taught in both Scripture and the major Calvinistic creeds, substituting instead an imbalanced and unbiblical notion of divine sovereignty.

The denial of the gospel call. This first and most extreme type of hyper-Calvinism denies that the gospel calls all sinners to repentance and faith. The gospel call (the invitation to come to Christ for salvation—Rev. 22:17; Matt. 11:28-29; Isa. 45:22; 55:1-7) is denied to all but the elect.

Historic Reformed theology notes that there are two different senses in which Scripture uses the word "*call*." The apostle Paul usually employs the word to speak of the *effectual call*, whereby an elect sinner is sovereignly drawn by God unto salvation. Obviously this "call" applies only to the elect alone (Rom. 8:28-30).

But Scripture also describes a *general call*. In Matthew 22:14, Jesus said, "Many are called, but few are chosen." Here, those who are "called" are clearly more in number than the elect. So our Lord is quite obviously using the word "call" in a different sense from how Paul used it in Romans 8:30.

The general call, sometimes known as the *external call*, is the call to faith and repentance inherent in the gospel message itself. When the gospel is preached, the general call goes out indiscriminately to all who come under the preaching of the gospel. This call is issued by the preacher as an ambassador of Christ.

The effectual call, sometimes known as the *internal call*, is the regenerating work of God in the hearts of His elect, whereby He draws them to Christ and opens their hearts unto faith. This call is for the elect alone and is issued by God alone.

From www.spurgeon.org Phillip R. Johnson.

"As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die" (Ezekiel 33:11).

(KMG) the above passage is quoted at the top of the webpage. If God has no pleasure in the death of the wicked, why not save everyone?