

# Calvinism – Augustine & Calvin

“The basic doctrines of the Calvinistic position had been vigorously defended by Augustine against Pelagius during the fifth century.”

—— David N. Steele and Curtis C. Thomas, *The Five Points of Calvinism* (Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Co., 1963), 19.

“John Calvin did not originate the doctrines that bear his name....”

—— Laurence M. Vance, *The Other Side of Calvinism* (Pensacola, FL: Vance Publications, rev. ed., 1999), 37.

“The system of doctrine which bears the name of John Calvin was in no way originated by him....”

—— Kenneth G. Talbot and W. Gary Crampton, *Calvinism, Hyper-Calvinism and Arminianism* (Edmonton, AB: Still Water Revival Books, 1990), 78.

“The system of doctrine taught by Calvin is just the Augustinianism common to the whole body of the Reformers.”

—— Benjamin B. Warfield, *Calvin and Augustine*, ed. Samuel G. Craig (Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Co., 1956), 22.

“perhaps Calvin himself derived it [Calvinism] mainly from the writings of Augustine.”

—— Charles Haddon Spurgeon, ed., *Exposition of the Doctrine of Grace* (Pasadena, CA: Pilgrim Publications, n. d.), 298.

“There is hardly a doctrine of Calvin that does not bear the marks of Augustine’s influence.”

—— Alvin L. Baker, *Berkouwer’s Doctrine of Election: Balance or Imbalance?* (Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Co., 1981), 25.

“The main features of Calvin’s theology are found in the writings of St. Augustine to such an extent that many theologians regard Calvinism as a more fully developed form of Augustinianism.”

—— C. Gregg Singer, *John Calvin: His Roots and Fruits* (Abingdon Press, 1989), 7.

“Augustine is so wholly with me, that if I wished to write a confession of my faith, I could do so with all fulness and satisfaction to myself out of his writings.”

—— John Calvin, “A Treatise on the Eternal Predestination of God,” in *John Calvin, Calvin’s Calvinism*, trans. Henry Cole (Grandville, MI: Reformed Free Publishing Association, 1987), 38; cited in Vance, *Other Side*, 38.

“Augustinianism was worked up into a still more rigid and uncompromising system by the severe intellect of Calvin.”

—— Henry H. Milman, *History of Christianity* (New York: A. C. Armstrong and Son, 1886), 3:176.

“John Calvin was part of a long line of thinkers who based their doctrine of predestination on the Augustinian interpretation of St. Paul.”

—— Richard A. Muller, *Christ and the Decree* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1988), 22.

“Augustine determined for all time the doctrine of grace.”

—— Benjamin B. Warfield, “The Idea of Systematic Theology,” in *The Princeton Theology*, ed. Mark A. Noll (Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Co., 1983), 258.