

The Basics of Divine Foreknowledge and Human Freedom Handout for Lecture #6

Criticisms of Augustinianism/Calvinism

Reliance on *compatibilism*

Scriptural Accord

Universalism Dilemma

1. God exists.
2. If God exists, then whatever God wills cannot be stopped.
3. God wills that all people are saved (1 Tim 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9).
4. Therefore, all people are saved.

But doesn't scripture teach that there are some who are not saved?

Problem of Evil

1. If God exists, then God is perfectly good, omnipotent, and omniscient.
2. God is perfectly good – God desires no evil to exist.
3. God omnipotent – God is powerful enough to do whatever He wills.
4. God is omniscient – God knows all things, including how to bring about what He wills.
5. Evil exists.
6. Either God is not perfectly good, omnipotent, or omniscient (from 2-5).
7. Therefore, God does not exist (from 1, 6).

Traditionally theists have avoided this argument by appealing to two claims:

- (A) God does not directly cause every event to occur as it does.
- (B) Human free will accounts for the need and cause of evil.