

## Free Will

Bible	Roman Catholic Church
<p>John 8:36, 43-44 "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed...Why do ye not understand my speech? <i>even</i> because ye cannot hear my word. Ye are of <i>your</i> father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."</p> <p>Romans 6:12,14 "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof...For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace."</p> <p>Romans 7:14 "For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin."</p> <p>2 Peter 2:19 "While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage."</p> <p>-</p> <p>Ephesians 2:1-3 "And you <i>hath he quickened</i>, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others."</p> <p>-</p> <p>Ephesians 4:18 "Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:"</p> <p>-</p> <p>Genesis 6:5 "And GOD saw that the wickedness of man <i>was</i> great in the earth, and <i>that</i> every imagination of the thoughts of his heart <i>was</i> only evil continually."</p> <p>-</p> <p>1 Corinthians 4:7 "For who maketh thee to differ <i>from another?</i> and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive <i>it</i>, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received <i>it?</i>"</p> <p>Ezekiel 36:26 "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh."</p>	<p>"If any one saith, that man's free will moved and excited by God, by assenting to God exciting and calling, nowise co-operates towards disposing and preparing itself for obtaining the grace of Justification; that it cannot refuse its consent, if it would, but that, as something inanimate, it does nothing whatever and is merely passive; let him be anathema. If any one saith, that, since Adam's sin, the free will of man is lost and extinguished; or, that it is a thing with only a name, yea a name without a reality, a figment, in fine, introduced into the Church by Satan; let him be anathema."</p> <p>-Council of Trent, Session 6, Canons IV-V</p>

NOTES:

## The Truth: Total Inability

1. Servitude of the will to sin:
  - a. **John 8:43, Romans 6:12,14; 2 Peter 2:19; Ephesians 2:2**
  - b. c.f. 1 Timothy 3:7 "Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil."; Hebrews 2:14-15 "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."
2. Spiritual Death:
  - a. **Ephesians 2:1;**
  - b. Romans 8:10 "And if Christ *be* in you, the body *is* dead because of sin; but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness."
  - c. John 8:21,24 "Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come...I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am *he*, ye shall die in your sins."
  - d. 1 Timothy 5:6 "But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth."
  - e. c.f. Ezekiel 18:24 "But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, *and* doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked *man* doeth, shall he live? All his righteousness that he hath done shall not be mentioned: in his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die."; Ephesians 5:14 "Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light."
3. Blindness and hardness of mankind:
  - a. **Ephesians 4:18,**
  - b. Ephesians 5:8 "For ye were sometimes darkness, but now *are ye* light in the Lord: walk as children of light:"
4. The lack of power in man to overcome sin:
  - a. **Genesis 6:5;**
  - b. John 15:5 "I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."
  - c. 1 Corinthians 2:14 "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned."
  - d. 2 Corinthians 3:5 "Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency *is* of God;"
  - e. Romans 8:7 "Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be."
  - f. Matthew 7:18 "A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit."
  - g. Matthew 12:34 "O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."
  - h. John 6:44 "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day."
5. Regeneration a miracle akin to creation:
  - a. **Ezekiel 36:26**
  - b. Ezekiel 18:31 "Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?"
  - c. Jeremiah 31:33 "But this *shall be* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people."
  - d. Lamentations 5:21 "Turn thou us unto thee, O LORD, and we shall be turned; renew our days as of old."