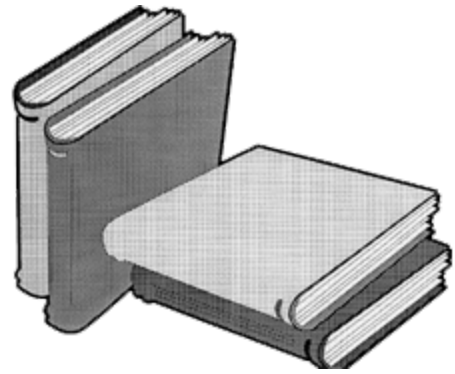


# The Rock and Pit

*Look unto the rock whence ye are hewn,  
and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged.*

Isa 51:1

Selections from the Christian's heritage in print,  
Collected by Dean Brown



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## **Dogs and Hogs.**

There are two sorts of people that are enemies to this doctrine [of election]. The one are as dogs, and the other as Hogs.

The one, which are they? They which will bark and come to show their teeth, and who despite<sup>1</sup> God by their wicked questions: as we see at this day in those villains who make no scruple to rend in pieces all the holy Scripture to corrupt, pervert, falsify, and adulterate all, so that they may darken the election of God ... to make this doctrine odious ...

Now there are also Hogs which will not despite in any such sort against it, but will say, "Very well. If I be elected I may do as much evil as I will, for God knows well how to keep me, and I can never perish." And contrariwise, "If I be reprobate, why should I torment myself so much as to do well, seeing that I can never be saved." These ... wallow there, and remain in their sins as brute beasts. ...

But we must take heed both of the one and the other. ... Therefore it is said of us, that God is the author of our salvation, and that we can bring nothing to serve in that matter, and that yet we must always be kept under his guard, and ... that he must perfect and accomplish that which he has begun.

John Calvin (1509-1564)

From a sermon preached around 1560 on Gen. 25: 21-22:  
<sup>21</sup> ... *Rebekah his wife conceived.* <sup>22</sup> *The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is thus, why is this happening to me?"*  
*So she went to inquire of the LORD.*

In Calvin, *Sermons on Election & Reprobation*, 13 sermons on Genesis 25:12 – 27:38, published in French in 1562, in English in 1597 translated by John Field, and reproduced in modern typesetting by Old Paths Publications, 1996, p. 45-46.  
Some simplifications made here.

<sup>1</sup> *Despite*, archaic verb. To show contempt for, to set at naught. *The Oxford Universal Dictionary*, third edition, corrected, 1955.