

Section 9.4-5: 2ndLBC 1689

9.4 Free Will

When God converts sinners and transforms them into the state of grace, he frees them from their natural bondage to sin⁷

and by his grace alone enables them to will and to do freely what is spiritually good.⁸

Yet because of their remaining corruption, they do not perfectly nor exclusively will what is good but also will what is evil.⁹

⁷Colossians 1:13; John 8:36.

⁸Philippians 2:13.

⁹Romans 7:15, 18, 19, 21, 23.

9.5 Free Will

Only in the state of glory is the will made perfectly and unchangeably free toward good alone.¹⁰

¹⁰Ephesians 4:13.

Scripture Proofs

⁷**Colossians 1:13** He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,

John 8:36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

⁸**Philippians 2:13** for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

⁹**Romans 7:15,18,19,21,23** For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand...but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

¹⁰**Ephesians 4:13** until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,