

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. BACKGROUND OF PROBLEM

Salvation is something that every human wants and for achieving it, human beings strive to embrace a religion. Salvation is very important thing, because it is the foundation of every religion for those who embrace it. They believe in that religion they adhere to there is a way of salvation for humans life.<sup>1</sup>

Of the various religions in the world, one of them is Christianity which is divided into several branches including Catholicism, Protestantism, and Orthodoxy. Protestant Christianity also has many denominations in it, two of which are Lutheran and Calvinist, both of which have a great influence on the spread of Protestant Christianity. Calvinists are often treated as the main leaders of some churches called "Reformation" which distinguishes between Lutherans and Anglicans.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Budi Raharjo et al., *MAKNA KESELAMATAN DALAM PERSPEKTIF AGAMA-AGAMA*, 1 (Yogyakarta: Universitas Sanata Dharma, 2014), 5.

<sup>2</sup> Grolier Incorporated, *Encyclopedia International: Bicycle-Canaanites*, vol. 3 (New York: American Book-Stratford Press, 1970), 522.

Calvinists have shaped more ideas and notion, thus reached more places than another reformed through faith. The Lutherans, on the other hand, had a hand in the Ausburg Confession which influenced and became the basic concept of divine thought.<sup>3</sup> In both denominations, it cannot be separated from the influence of two figures who are the driving force behind the emergence of Protestant Christianity and the guardians of the Reformation, thus influencing both followers who are firm in upholding their doctrines, teachings, and concepts of thought.<sup>4</sup>

One of the concepts in Protestant Christianity is salvation where to get to salvation requires faith to get justification from God through the gift of unlimited grace where the Bible is the foundation in the life of believers in increasing human faith.<sup>5</sup> Whereas in their views, both have different interpretations with their respective styles in developing the concept of

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<sup>3</sup> Grolier Incorporated, *Encyclopedia International: Linden-Metronome*, vol. 11 (New York: American Book-Stratford Press, 1970), 142.

<sup>4</sup> Lisa Rukmana and Yoan Mareta, "Sejarah Pemikiran Gerakan Reformasi," *Edu Sosial: Jurnal Pendidikan Ilmu Pengetahuan Sosial FKIP Universitas Jambi* Vol. 2 No. 2 (November 2022): 78.

<sup>5</sup> Cristian Jaya Fajarensa and Yesri Esau Talan, "MEMAHAMI KONSEP SOLA FIDE DARI PERSPEKTIF PARA REFORMATOR DAN IMPLEMENTASINYA BAGI ORANG PERCAYA MASA KINI," *SESAWI: Jurnal Teologi dan Pendidikan Kristen* 4, no. 2 (June 28, 2023): 217, <https://doi.org/10.53687/sjtpk.v4i2.162>.

salvation. salvation is the basic point of Protestant Christianity in addition to the doctrine of justice with full trust in Christ.<sup>6</sup>

In the differences in their interpretations of salvation, the researcher's desire to deepen this study arises. Is the research on the definition of the concept of salvation both have a clear difference that rooted in differences in terms of the description of the doctrines in it include faith, grace, the will of God. Coupled with research that has never discussed extensively about the concept of salvation comparing the two denominations including Lutheran and Calvinist based on the thoughts of the two great Protestant Christian figures, John Calvin and Martin Luther.

## B. PROBLEM OF STATEMENT

In examining and explaining the research, the researcher formulated the problem with a structure that was described with several points including:

1. What is the concept of salvation in the Calvinist and Lutheran Christian denominations?

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<sup>6</sup> Syamsul Hadi Untung and Khoirunisa, "Martin Luther and The Concept of The Reformation of a True Church (An Analytical Study and Phenomenon On The Denominations Of Church)," *Journal of Religious Comparative Studies* 1 (November 2019): 13, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1992/jrcs.v1i1.3720>.

2. What are the similarities and differences between Calvinist and Lutheran Christian denominations in the concept of salvation?

### C. OBJECTIVES OF RESEARCH

Research in reviewing and researching the above discussion has several final objectives including:

1. To explain what is the general definition of the concept of salvation in both Calvinic and Lutheran Christianity
2. To explain the similarities and differences that exist between the Calvinist and Lutheran Christian schools

### D. BENEFITS OF THE RESEARCH

In the above research, benefits can be taken that can explain the above research including:

#### 1. Theoretical benefits

That is, it can make a valuable contribution to the development of thought and schools that are developing today so that it can add insights related to the Christian faith and divine concepts in the realm of

Christianity. So that it can provide enlightenment in understanding and exploring the creed of Christianity.

## **2. Practical Benefits**

The research that has been presented can be used as data collection material by subsequent research, or as important reference material in analytical studies, and can also be used as a comparative material for thinking now and that has developed in the future.

## **E. LITERATURE REVIEW**

In this study, there are several similarities with past research. An explanation is needed by the researcher to understand his position and see the novelty of this study, the previous research is as follows:

1. **Thesis “Kebebasan Manusia dalam Predestinasi Ganda John Calvin berdasarkan Institutes of the Christian Religion”** by Christian Arisandi Kiding Allo 2023 with a Master of Divinity Philosophy STF Driyarkara Jakarta. The analytical descriptive method of dual predestination in Institutes and freedom in the philosophical tradition in order to clarify the relationship between human beings and determinism is then examined so as to produce

a perspective to see the space of human freedom in dual predestination. Meanwhile, the concept of salvation by John Calvin was compared by Martin Luther with a combination of various descriptive, analytical, and comparative method.

2. **Journal “Konsep Keselamatan Dalam Ajaran Calvinisme”**, by Maria Widiastuti Christian Religious Education, Faculty of Christian Education, Tarutung State Christian Religious Institute, 2019. This journal contains the teachings of Calvinism which explains the doctrine of salvation with the main focus and scope contained in the five points of Calvinism, namely the acronym T-U-L-I-P, with a literature approach.<sup>7</sup> The difference is that the author does not only explain the doctrine but the broad concept of salvation taken from the figure of John Calvin in the context of Calvinism as a whole, then compared with Martin Luther's concept of salvation in the Lutheran context.
3. **Thesis “Tinjauan Teologis Tentang Doktrin Keselamatan Dan Signifikansinya Bagi Gereja Di Tengah Pluralitas Agama”** by Moses Salemban, Student of Jaffray Theological College, Makassar

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<sup>7</sup> Maria Widiastuti, "KONSEP KESELAMATAN DALAM AJARAN CALVINISME," *Jurnal Pionir LPPM Universitas Asahan* Vol. 5 N0. 4 (November 2019)

2016.<sup>8</sup> This research uses a qualitative method through a theological approach. With sources from literature relevant to the topic. Where Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation that can only be obtained by the grace of God who in his sovereignty has determined who will be saved in the midst of religious plurality. However, the researcher wants to examine the doctrine of salvation between the two figures above.

4. **Thesis “Konsep Keselamatan dalam Teologi Kristen Modern”**, by Anisah , 2008, with the School of Ushuluddin faculty, State Islamic Institute, Walisongo Semarang. The discussant used *library research*, to find out how the concept of salvation in Christianity fits into books related to it.<sup>9</sup> With a difference in discussion that explains the concept of salvation that focuses more on John Calvin and Martin Luther.

5. **Thesis “Konsep Iman Kristen Menurut Pandangan Yohannes Calvin”**, by Hariyadi 20, Department of Comparative Religion,

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<sup>8</sup> MOSES SALEMBAN, “TINJAUAN TEOLOGIS TENTANG DOKTRIN KESELAMATAN DAN SIGNIFIKANSINYA BAGI GEREJA DI TENGAH PLURALITAS AGAMA” (Program Studi Pendidikan Agama Kristen Protestan, Makassar, Sekolah Tinggi Theologia Jaffray, 2016).

<sup>9</sup> Anisah, " KONSEP KESELAMATAN DALAM TEOLOGI KRISTEN MODERN" (FAKULTAS USHULUDDIN, SEMARANG, INSTITUT AGAMA ISLAM NEGERI WALISONGO, 2008).

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2003. Where it discusses the concept of Christian faith according to John Calvin with a type of approach with literature in the historical scope and descriptive method of analysis in explaining the views and thoughts of Johannes Calvin about the description of Christian faith.<sup>10</sup> While the difference between the researcher discusses the concept of salvation of John Calvin in the context of Calvinism and compared with Martin Luther in the Lutheran context and also uses a theological approach with reference to doctrine, divine teachings.

Referring to the literature review above, the researcher has several differences besides the similarities between the previous discussions that no one has examined the concept of salvation according to John Calvin and Martin Luther which refers to the context of the followers of both Calvinists and Lutherans, nor has anyone examined the concept of salvation with a theological approach with the type of library research.

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<sup>10</sup> Hariyadi, "Konsep Iman Kristen Menurut Pandangan Yohannes Calvin" (jurusan Perbandingan Agama, fakultas ushuluddin, Jogjakarta, Institut Agama Islam Negeri Sunan Kalijaga, 2003).



## F. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

A theoretical framework is a series of theories that are arranged in a structured way to understand a research or writing. It is also an abstract concept in understanding phenomena that occur between one concept and another, and describes the cause-and-effect relationship of a phenomenon.<sup>11</sup> There is a theoretical framework to find out the value or content in the writing, which includes basic statements so that you can get some of the descriptions in the writing.

In completing this thesis, the researcher uses a theological approach. Theological research in religious research is a discussion that refers to God. Theology also includes science that includes transcendence mythologically, philosophically and dogmatically. In theological research, researchers try to release their subjectivity to understand the object being studied and can position themselves as the object of research so that they can understand faith conceptually.<sup>12</sup> So that it can explain the concept of salvation to be more detailed.

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<sup>11</sup> Hardani, *Metode Penelitian Kualitatif & Kuantitatif* (Yogyakarta: Pustaka Ilmu, n.d.).

<sup>12</sup> Jumal Ahmad and Guruh Juhana, "Approaches to The Study Religion," 2018, 14–15.

Salvation has a strong relationship with God's grace and grace in His faithful servants. In this study, the author uses a "theological approach" which is one of the approaches to explain the essence and basics of a religion in detail.<sup>13</sup> The view of the meaning of Theology itself is something related to God and transcendence by looking at the dogmatic, mythological, and philosophical sides and is also a position that has activities that arise from faith and the interpretation of faith.<sup>14</sup> This thesis, uses a theological approach because it discusses one of the teachings of the concept of divinity in a school, namely the "concept of salvation" that will be studied.

Salvation's definition is the state of being saved from the power of evil".<sup>15</sup> Which means that salvation in Christianity is where humans themselves can be saved from the interference of Satan and his temptations, that is the meaning according to the dictionary above that people need to get salvation from something that endangers them now and in the future. French reformer spread widely in France and Switzerland that carries the

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<sup>13</sup> Abuy Sodikin Badruzzaman, *Metodologi Studi Islam* (Bandung: Tunas Nusantara, 2000), 103.

<sup>14</sup> Peter Connolly, *Variety of Approaches to Religious Studies*, 1st ed. (Medan: Bina Media Perintis, 2007), 300.

<sup>15</sup> A. S. Hornby, *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English*, ninth edition (United Kingdom: Oxford University Press, 2015), 1325.

flow with its name. Which is made in Geneva, He is best known for his book *Christian Foundations*.<sup>16</sup>

Furthermore, Calvinism as a theology advanced by John Calvin, they rely on him in doctrines and practices and spread widely by his follower's hands which affected major impact in form of Protestantism. Theology is in his book called "*Institutes of the Christian Religion*" which is very strong with the basis of his teaching, namely the infinite sovereignty of God. God's sovereignty can be seen from God's majesty and glory.<sup>17</sup>

Martin Luther was born in German 1483 till 1546. Augustinian monk, theologian, thinker, and writer. Started the Reformation in Germany. Protestantism. He broke with the Church on indulgences, the authority of the Pope, chanting, honoring the saints, purgatory, and the Mass. 1517 He translated the Torah into German. The translation was a religious and literary conversation<sup>18</sup>. He was German Protestant Reformer born in 1483-1546 in Eisleben, Central Germany, he lived between the Middle Ages and

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لويس معلوف, المنجد في اللغة و الأعلام, 49 (بيروت, لبنان: دار المشرق, 2017), 472<sup>16</sup>

<sup>17</sup> Incorporated, *Encyclopedia International: Bicycle-Canaanites*, 3:522.

معلوف, المنجد في اللغة و الأعلام, 504<sup>18</sup>

the Golden Age (*Renassissance*), where the Catholic Church had a violent and cruel monopoly on Europe and its surroundings.<sup>19</sup>

Lutheran is one of the many Protestant schools taught by Martin Luther. The majority of them joined the Lutheran World Federation, which was established in 1947 in Lund, Sweden.<sup>20</sup> basis of religion is between man and God which referred to the Word of God in Bible and other like the message of Christ, Atonement, Forgiveness of sins, and Offer of salvation.<sup>21</sup>

#### G. RESEARCH METHODS

Research method is defined as a series of activities that have been thought, measured, and assembled in detail so that problems in an event can be found and solved.<sup>22</sup> Include. The type of data research, the sources used, data collection techniques, and data analysis in this study.

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<sup>19</sup> Ben Alex, *Martin Luther Biarawan Jerman Yang Menjadi Reformator Gereja*, trans. Jenny Bernadus and Helmi Harefa, 1st ed. (Jakarta: BPK Gunung Mulia, 2012), 9.

<sup>20</sup> Incorporated, *Encyclopedia International: Linden-Metronome*, 11:141.

<sup>21</sup> Paul Tillich, *A History of Christian Thought From Its Judaic and Hellenistic Oridins to Existentialism*, ed. Carl E. Braaten (New York: A Touchstone Book Simon and Schuster, Inc, 1967), 243.

<sup>22</sup> Raco, *Metode Penelitian Kualitatif Jenis, Karakteristik, Dan Keunggulannya* (Jakarta: PT Grasindo, 2010), 5.

## 1. Type of Research

The type of approach used in this thesis uses library research, where information and data are obtained about research to explain more about the concept of salvation both Calvinists and Lutherans above based on related books, encyclopedia, journals, dictionaries and articles which related to this research.

## 2. Data Analysis Method

For making a great understanding about this research, there are methods of library research, which is have some of kind methods for discussing and examine this research by colltecting some of related books, journals, articles, encyclopedia, and other website according to the Concept of Salvation in Calvinist and Lutheran Christianity such as:

### a. Descriptive methods

Methods with objective explanations with those investigated, as well as explanations that are in accordance with the problem as it is and the disclosure of the reality that occurs.<sup>23</sup> Where the researcher explains and describes the above titles in general

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<sup>23</sup> Raihan, *Metodologi Penelitian* (Jakarta: Univeristas Islam Jakarta, 2017), 52.

including the meaning of salvation and the character of Calvin and also Luther.

b. Analysis Methods

It is a method to describe it into several forms and parts and then study and observe or researched.<sup>24</sup> Namely by analyzing several variables summarized in the title and re-researched in accordance with the title variables above and developed so as to analyze the concept of salvation according to the figures of Calvin and Luther, including their ideology and teachings.

c. Comparative Methods

Comparative research, is research that compares two objects<sup>25</sup>, as discussed by the discussion between Calvin and Luther in a set of concepts of salvation, which includes the differences between the two and also explains the similarities between two influential Christian figures, namely Calvin and Luther.

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<sup>24</sup> Suryan, *Metodologi Penelitian Model Praktis Penelitian Kuantitatif Dan Kualitatif* (indonesia: Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia, 2010), 31.

<sup>25</sup> Rifa'i Abubakar, *Pengantar Metodologi Penelitian*, 1st ed. (Yogyakarta: SUKA-Press UIN Sunan Kalijaga, 2021), 7.

### 3. Data Collection Techniques

In compiling and strengthening the writing data here, the discussant needs to use strong references for reference by using primary sources taken also from the written works of the figures being researched and discussed. Secondary, namely from various books, journals, encyclopedias, articles and others.<sup>26</sup>

#### a. Primary Data

Reference taking is based on books that are strong in terms of data so that it becomes a master book in obtaining various information and data which includes:

- 1) *The Way of Salvation in the Lutheran Church* was written by G.H. Gerberding, and published by Just and Sinner Publications, Fairfield, IA in 2013, which explains about the Lutheran faith that salvation is obtained by redemption through His grace and how salvation takes the blame out of sin. Where the researcher uses it for the final project.

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<sup>26</sup> Mohammad Isom Mudin, *Buku Pedoman Teknik Penulisan Skripsi Fakultas Ushuluddin* (Ponorogo: Fakultas Ushuluddin Universitas Darussalam Gontor, 2022), 12.

2) *The Cambridge Companion to John Calvin* was written by Donald K. McKim Frontmatter and published by Cambridge University Press. United Kingdom in 2004. Where this book discusses the general picture of Calvin and his thoughts and also offers critical and analytical insights from various perspectives. So that researchers can add to meet the final project.

3) *De Servo Arbitrio "On the Enslaved Will" or The Bondage of Will*, written by Martin Luther, and published by the Christian Classics Ethereal Library Grand Rapids, MI in 2005, discusses God's sovereignty and absolution to His servants as well as grace so that man can be freed from slavery. So, the researcher wants to add to the final project.

4) *Calvin Institutes of the Christian Religion volume one* written by John T. McNeill was published by Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville, Kentucky in 2006. This explains the Protestant Christian teachings of defense in the context of reform that discusses the Creator, namely God and Redeemer. So the researcher added this to be a reference for the final project.

5) *Calvin Institutes of the Christian Religion volume two* written by John T. McNeill was published by Westminster John Knox Press,



Louisville, Kentucky in 2006. This explains what it discusses as Christ the redeemer and also discusses extensively and thoroughly Protestant theology. So, the researcher can use it for the final project.

#### b. Secondary Data

The researcher took several secondary references from various books, magazines, articles, journals, related notes and similarities in the content and essence of the titles discussed by the researcher.

### H. SYSTEMATIC DISCUSSION

The research that has been formulated by the researcher is divided into four chapters which explain in a structured manner the studies that have been studied by the author consist of:

Chapter 1 includes the background of the problem, the formulation of the problem, the purpose of the research, the usefulness of the research, the literature review, the theoretical framework, the research method, and the systematics of writing.

Chapter 2 explains several variables in relation to the concepts of salvation, Christianity, Calvinism, and Lutheran and their teachings.

Chapter 3 examines and analyzes how the concept of salvation is general and profound according to the Calvinists and Lutherans by explaining the similarities and differences that follow it.

Chapter 4 is the closing and ending of the researcher's study which includes conclusions, suggestions, conclusions, and also a literature review.

