

In Love He Predestined Us

# Outline of Ephesians

Discover the vastness of God's love in calling you (1-3)

Greetings (1:1-2)

Paul praised God for the riches of His glory (1:3-14)

Work of the Father (3-6)

**Message:** Praise God the Father for His love in predestining us to become His children

# Praise God because...

- I. The Father chose us (4)
- II. He did it by predetermining that we become His sons (5)
- III. His goal in doing it was to show His excellence (6)

# “In Christ” - Instrumental

God  
Chose



Us

“ ‘Didn’t I choose God?’ somebody asks indignantly; to which we must answer ‘Yes, indeed you did, and freely, but only because in eternity God had first chosen you.’ ”

John Stott, *Ephesians*, p. 37

Resistance to the doctrine of election

# “Holy”



- We must become like God because He is holy (1 Pet 1:16)
- We must be set apart to God, consecrated for serving Him (Lev 20:7)
- We must obey His commands (Lev 20:8)
- We must be different from the people of the world (Lev 20:26)

# “Love” (*Eros*)



- It is driven by impulse. Some external stimulus prompts it.
- It loves because it finds the object worthy of love.
- It happens without conscious thought, “Follow your heart”.
- It is self-centered. What can you do for me?

# “Love” (*Agapé*)



- It is not driven by impulse or external stimuli.
- It deliberately chooses to act as a free choice.
- It arises from the love that resides inside. (It can love the unworthy)
- It seeks the highest good of the other person (give, serve).



“

To reveal Himself fully, to display His full-orbed glory, was an end worthy of God

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John Eadie, *Ephesians*, p. 36

To the praise of the glory of His grace

“

The liberal bestowment of that grace is  
its crown and glory

”

John Eadie, *Ephesians*, p. 38

To the praise of the glory of His grace