

**Discipleship:
An
Introduction to
Systematic Theology and
Apologetics**

Protestant Reformation Doctrines of Salvation

The Heights Church January 12, 2020

Election (Review – Two Essential Passages Regarding Election)

And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by **one man**, our forefather Isaac, though they were not yet born and had **done nothing either good or bad**--in order that God's **purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls**-- she was told, "The older will serve the younger." As it is written, "**Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.**" (Romans 9:10 -13)

Election (Review – Two Essential Passages Regarding Election)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as **he chose us in him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love **he predestined us for adoption** as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. (Ephesians 1:3 – 6)

Election

So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense. "They stumble because **they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.** But **you are a chosen race,** a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may **proclaim the excellencies of him** who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but **now you have received mercy.** (1 Peter 2:7 – 10)

Election

And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved. But for the **sake of the elect** those days will be cut short. (Matthew 24:22)

Therefore I endure everything for the **sake of the elect**, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. (2 Timothy 2:10)

As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest may stand in fear. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the **elect angels** I charge you to keep these rules without prejudging, doing nothing from partiality. (1 Timothy 5:21)

Election: Apostle John

- John also uses (*eklektos* =“elect” and *eklegō* =“chose” or “chosen”)

I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have **chosen**. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' (John 13:18)

You did not **choose** me, but I **chose** you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you... If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I **chose** you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. (John 15:16, 19)

Election: Apostle John

The elder to the **elect** lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all who know the truth, (2 John 1:1)

The children of your **elect** sister greet you. (2 John 1:13)

They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are **called** and **chosen** and faithful.” (Revelation 17:14)

Election: Apostle John

- The Apostle John strongly implies election in John 6:37 – 40.

All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. (John 6:37)

³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹ And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰ For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

Election: Apostle John

- The Apostle John ALSO strongly implies election in John 10:26 – 30.

but you do not believe because **you are not among my sheep.** ²⁷ **My sheep** hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ **My Father, who has given them to me,** is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one.”

Election: Apostle John

- Two passages in Revelation that refer to the “Book of Life” are also strong indicators of election.

Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. And authority was given it over every tribe and people and language and nation, ⁸ and all who dwell on earth will worship it, **everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain.** (Revelation 13:7 – 8)

And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. (Revelation 20:15)

Election: How does the NT View Election?

- **As a comfort:** And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. (Romans 8:28 - 29)

Election: How does the NT View Election?

- As a reason to praise, glorify and thank God.

he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, **to the praise of his glorious grace**, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. (Ephesians 1:5-6)

so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be **to the praise of his glory**. (Ephesians 1:12)

But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. (2 Thessalonians 2:13)

Election: How does the NT View Election?

- As an encouragement to Evangelize.

And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, "Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people." (Acts 18:9 – 10)

Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. (2 Timothy 2:10)

Election: Correcting Misunderstandings about Election

1. Election is not fatalistic or mechanistic.

- Fatalism: human decisions and choice do not make a difference. Things always turn out as they are ordained. Therefore it is futile to attempt to influence the outcome of events. Humanity is destroyed because our choices mean nothing and the motivation for moral accountability is removed.
- Mechanisticism: Things happen due to an impersonal, inflexible set of “rules.” Humans are like machines and not genuine persons.

Election: Correcting Misunderstandings about Election

- However in the NT salvation is brought about by a personal God in relationship with personal creatures. he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. (Ephesians 1:5-6)