

**I. Introduction – Not recognized by the world (v. 10)**

Jesus Christ is God - the “Word” who was eternally with God  
He was the agent of Creation  
He is light and life, but depraved men prefer darkness rather than light

**II. *He came to His own, but His own received Him not* (v. 11)**

How? Through the Incarnation  
Who are His own?  
It is human nature not to receive truth  
Israel’s rejection of Messiah meant life to the Gentiles

**III. But as many as received Him ...the right to become children of God (v. 12)**

This is a Christ-centered verse, and says nothing about “free-will”  
“*as many as received Him*” is the subject acted upon in this verse  
Acts 13:44-48 – the Jew first, but for now the Gentile  
How can you identify one who has “received Him?” BELIEF  
Romans 2:28-29  
Ephesians 2:11-13  
The right is given to Gentiles  
Colossians 1:12  
The Canaanite woman with the sick daughter  
What have we received?  
I Peter 2:9-10 - mercy  
Romans 8:15-17 - the Spirit of adoption  
I Corinthians 2:12-14 – the Spirit who give us understanding  
The error of the “seeker-friendly” church – No man seeks God!  
Believers know the things that are FREELY given to them

**IV. What is the means by which one is saved? (verse 13)**

Not of blood (heritage)  
John 8:32-36 – the fleshly children are not free slaves to sin, the son of  
promise of free  
Not of the flesh (spiritual not natural)  
John 3:3-9 – the Spirit blows and saves where He wills  
God is the initiator of your salvation – John 6:44, I John 4:19, Romans 5:8  
Not of the will of man ... but of God ... which brings us to ...

**V. Unconditional Election – ‘Free will and Divine Sovereignty’ (Part I)**

Salvation is rooted and secured in the Sovereignty of God’s choice, not the  
flippancy of man’s choice  
Calvinism vs. Arminianism  
The ‘5 points’ were derived by Arminius – not Calvin

Prior history of the debate (almost as old as the New Testament)

Pelagius vs. Augustine (heresy vs. 'Sola Gratia')

What was lost in the fall was man's 'liberty' not his free-will

Man has no ability to embrace the holy things of God

Man lost the power to not sin

All of man's choices will reflect a will that is at enmity with God

Augustine vs. John Cassian (the rise of Semi-Pelagianism)

Semi-Pelagianism accept the pervasive effect of the fall

Man's will is crippled but not dead

God is the source of salvation

James 1:18

I Peter 1:3

Romans 9:16

Philippians 2:13

Ephesians 1:3-14

Romans 9

Does this negate man's will?

No. Man wills and God wills, but the question is who is Sovereign?

If man gets the final say, then by definition he is Sovereign

God's will is the initiator of man's will

## VI. Conclusion – How are God's will and man's will compatible?

Acts 16:13-16

God opened Lydia's heart

Man has never pursued God from the beginning ... God pursues man

God commands and it is done

Next week we will continue our discussion of *Unconditional Election* and consider:

- If Unconditional Election is true, then **how is that God is Just?**
- If Unconditional Election is true, then **what is the motivation for evangelism?**
- **Why would anyone do anything** if our eternal destiny is foreordained?
- Did God look down the "*corridor of time*" and **base His Election on what He knew man would choose?**
- What is man's role in *receiving* and *believing* in the new birth?
- How is human responsibility consistent with Divine Sovereignty (ie. if God chooses us, then **how is it that man remains accountable to God**)
- **Does God choose people to go to hell?**
- How does this doctrine effect one's manner of living and how the church operates?

Between now and then, read and study the passages of Scripture. If these things are true, they will be clearly taught in Scripture – let the Scripture speak for itself.

Ephesians 1:3-14, Romans 9 (esp. 10-29), Exodus 33:19, Deuteronomy 7:6-8, 32:39, Job 12:14, 42:2, Isaiah 45:4-10, Daniel 4:35, John 3:3-8, John 6:44, John 8:32-47, John 10:25-30, John 15:15-17, John 17:6-10, John 18:37, Acts 13:48, Romans 8:28-30, I Corinthians 2:12-14, Galatians 1:11-16, Ephesians 2:1-10, Philippians 1,6, 2:13, Colossians 1:12, II Timothy 1:9, II Thessalonians 2:13-15, Titus 3:3-7, I Peter 1:23-25, I John 2:19, 5:1-2