

THE MOST IMPORTANT ELECTION EVER

Ephesians 1:3-6

No less than 15 times the NT calls believers _____ yet it's one of the most controversial doctrines in the Bible

1:3-6	God the Father	Concern eternity _____ from the foundation of the world
1:7-12	God the Son	Concern the _____ —God's purposes in human history
1:13-14	God the Spirit	Concern the _____ —our inheritance in glory

V.3 is one of the most intriguing Bible promises: it means "the _____ spiritual blessing in heavenly places"

V.4 tells us this blessing is ours in Christ because of what the Father did _____ the foundation of the world

I. DEFINITIONS OF ELECTION

- A. "Chose" in v.4 can be translated "elected"; this key word means to choose out from a _____ of choices
The voice of this verb also means that God chose each of us for Himself—for His own _____
- B. "Predestined" in v.5 can be translated "predetermine" or "foreordain" emphasizing God acted _____
This verb is also used a handful of times to describe believers in addition to the 15 uses of _____

II. MISCONCEPTIONS OF ELECTION

- A. There Is _____ Such Thing as Personal Election
Since nearly _____ passages directly mention election or foreordination, this view cannot be sustained
- B. God Elected _____ Human Being
 - 1) Some liberal theologians teach _____ salvation: God saved all thru Christ they just don't know it
 - 2) This view does not align w/ the teaching of the NT that a person must repent & _____ to be saved
 - 3) The word _____ means to choose persons out of a mass not choose the entire mass of mankind
- C. God Elected Everyone Who Is in _____ by Faith
 - 1) God doesn't elect individuals but rather chooses all who are IN CHRIST—all who _____ Christ
 - 2) Romans 8:29: "For who He foreknew, He also predestined" means that God pre-determines who will be saved based on whom He _____ will place their faith in Christ. 3 Flaws to This View:
 - a) Rom.8:29 doesn't say God foreknows that these individuals will _____ on Christ; no verse does
Rather God knew these persons before the world began— _____ them before the world began
 - b) "Choose" or "elect" means to choose persons out of a mass not choose everyone in this _____
 - c) Because all are _____, none of us would ever choose Christ apart from the work of God

III. OBJECTIONS TO ELECTION

- A. If This Doctrine Is True, Then Men Cannot Have _____
God's election is not a denial that men must choose—repent and believe: the Bible teaches _____
- B. If This Doctrine Is True, Then We Have No Reason To _____
 - 1) God ordains not only the ends, but the _____ : if we do not share the gospel, men will not be saved
 - 2) If we fail to evangelize, God will hold us _____ for failing to warn men of coming judgment
 - 3) That God elects gives us hope that our evangelistic efforts will be _____ b/c He does the work