

Sovereignty of God - Pt.3 - God's Sovereignty in Election

Review: We dealt with the "fairness" and "origin of evil" issues last week, so I will redirect you there if you have questions or missed that lecture. This will be expanding on the theme of predestination by covering "the elect".

The Elect of God

- The elect choose because they are elect – Rom 11:7
- Meaning in Greek – pertaining to be selected or chosen
 - Jesus – you didn't choose me, I chose you
- The writers of Scripture understood the church as the elect of God (called out ones, a chosen people)
 - The Church as the continuation of and fulfillment of Israel
 - Gal 6:15-16
 - Rom 11:23-32
 - Opening addresses in 1 Peter, Titus, and 1 Tim all refer to Church as elect
- Note Jesus' care for the elect in the last days Matt 24:22-31,
 - Note also Paul's care for the elect - 2 Tim 2:10

TULIP (Total depravity of man, Unconditional election, Limited atonement, Irresistible grace, Perseverance of the saints)

- T - Romans 3:10, 23, 5:12-19; Is 53:6; 1 John 1:8-10; Col 2:13, Eph 2:1
 - Misinterpreted verse: Jos 24:15 & 22 (1) we make choices but God gives us the heart to choose him, (2) this vow is followed by their inability to live it out!)
- U - covered last week in Rom 8:28-30 but also see Rom 9:11, 11:5-7; Eph 2:8-10, John 15:16
 - Misinterpreted verse: 1 Tim 2:4 ("all" in Greek - 1) each & every, OR 2) totality of, whole or group. Vision of new man...new mankind. Look at next verse for context!)
- L - Acts 13:48; Eph 1:4, Rev 13:8; Rom 9:6, 11:23:
 - Did Christ die for a potentiality, i.e.-could all reject and Christ die literally for no one, or was their definite atonement from beginning?)
 - Misinterpreted verse: 2 Peter 3:9: who is "any" referring to-the antecedent "you".
The context is not having the church led astray by scoffers denying Christ's return
- I - Acts 13:48 (same point), Romans 9:19
 - Misinterpreted verses: all verses on rejecting Christ, but hardening from Rom 9 - we make choices, but God is active agent in them.
 - See also Acts 4:27-28
- P - Eph 1:13-14; Phil 1:6; John 6:37-47, 10:27-30; Rom 8:28-30, Matt 24:24
 - All the Father draws will come. If He draws, softens or hardens, etc., then whoever is elect will persevere to the end
 - Elect could only be led astray if that were possible, which clearly in scripture it isn't.
 - Misinterpreted verses:

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- 2Peter 1:10 = a call to action – confirm yourself as called means to show fruit in keeping with God's calling. It doesn't mean you did the calling. You are giving evidence of your calling. Good tree bears good fruit.
- Hebrews 6:4-6 = compare to soil in Luke 8 but not born again. "Not all who cry Lord, Lord will enter the Kingdom of heaven." People who believe for a while can fall. The elect will persevere.

Key to understanding our ability to "choose" God (the good soil that takes root):

- Jer 17:9; Jer 31:33-34 – new heart then they will know me
- Ezek 36:25-27 – new heart & spirit precedes choice
- Can something dead choose life?

Review common misunderstandings of election:

1. We do not make choices
 - a. Our ability to "choose" righteousness(God), is b/c He gave us a heart to do so.
2. Election is fatalistic
 - a. Free-agency. We are not puppets, but have destiny
3. Election is a position of arrogance (we got picked!)
 - a. Predestination is a doctrine of humility not arrogance! We can't take credit for what God did in us!
4. Election is license to sin or uncertainty of God's choice
 - a. Know them by their fruits. Our desire to sin does not affect our election, but our election should affect our desire to sin!
 - b. It is a doctrine of security not insecurity (our relationship with Him assures us, not makes us afraid of whether or not we are the "elect" when we get to heaven) – know them by their fruits)

Purpose in election

- EPH 1:10-12 (a great summary statement!! - we are projection of His glory)

Assignment:

1. Read Job 29-42