

“Election And Freewill”

Lesson 34

1. The doctrine of ELECTION is much like the doctrine of the TRINITY in that we can never fully understand it in our HUMAN minds. It demands the FAR SUPERIOR mind of God.
2. In salvation there are two sides:
 - a. God’s side (CHOOSING AND CALLING)
 - b. Man’s side (ACCEPTING AND RECEIVING)
3. Paul describes three groups of people in 1 Corinthians 1:23 and 24.
 - a. Jews who trusted in RELIGION AND RITUAL.
 - b. Greeks (Gentiles) who trusted in PHILOSOPHY AND HUMAN WISDOM.
 - c. Called (all people Jews and Gentiles alike who trust in the CROSS OF CHRIST) which is the POWER OF GOD to salvation.
4. In the Old Testament God ELECTED the nation of Israel as His people and ABRAHAM as the father of the nation. Genesis 12:1-3
5. For what purposes did God choose Israel?
 - a. To illustrate the BLESSINGS of service to the ONE TRUE GOD. Deut. 33:26-29
 - b. To RECEIVE, preserve and TRANSMIT the scriptures. Deut. 4:5-8; Romans 3:1 & 2
 - c. To PRODUCE the Lord Jesus Christ. Isaiah 7:13 and 14; Isaiah 9:6
6. Abraham is the great example of God’s election of INDIVIDUALS. Genesis 12:1
7. God’s part was CHOOSING, Abraham’s part was obeying. Hebrews 11:8
8. Isaac was another example of DIVINE ELECTION. God CHOSE Isaac not Ishmael. Genesis 17:19-21
9. God also CHOSE JACOB and not Esau, even though Esau was the OLDER BROTHER and should have received his father’s blessing. Gen. 32:28; Rom. 9:8-12
10. The doctrine of election also holds true in the NEW TESTAMENT and it becomes obvious as the Holy Spirit CAUSES US to believe. 1 Thessalonians 1:4 and 5

* Without the convicting power of the Holy Spirit there can be no salvation.

11. God chose the FOOLISH THINGS of the world to confound the wise. 1 Cor. 1:26-31

* Note the words **called** and **chose** in the above passage. Note also verse 31 which tells us why He chose and we didn't.

12. We were chosen BEFORE THE FOUNDATION of the earth. Eph. 1:3-9; John 15:16

13. The apostles were elected.

a. PAUL in Acts 9:15; 22:12-14

b. ALL the Apostles Acts 10:41

14. ALL we who have come to Christ for salvation HAVE BEEN elected.
2 Thessalonians 2:13 and 14; 2 Timothy 2:10 and Titus 1:1

15. The entire BODY OF CHRIST past, present, and future are God's elect.
1 Peter 1:1 and 2; Romans 11:5-8

* God's responsibility is to choose or elect. Man's responsibility is to choose by the exercise of his freewill.

16. We are to believe in God's ELECTIVE purpose and ALSO believe that He has given us a FREEWILL. John 3:16; Rom. 10:13; Acts 2:21, 10:43 & 16:31

17. Whosoever is ALL INCLUSIVE. All who will accept Christ. Mark 8:34-38

18. The INVITATION of Jesus is COME. Matthew 8:28

19. The word **come** in scripture is found 642 times.

20. God CALLS, the individual must ANSWER. John 6:35-40; Hebrews 11:8

21. How many are CHOSEN? AS MANY AS received Him. John 1:12, 17:2, 6, 9, 11, 12 and 24; Acts 13:48

22. The LAST INVITATION in the Bible is COME. Revelation 22:16 & 17

Conclusion

During this great and glorious age of the grace of God, the age of the church, the Gospel is to all and for all who will believe. The Gospel is to be preached to all the world, said Jesus. Some might say, "How do I know I am one of the elected ones?" The answer is simple. Become one of the "whosoever wills" and you will be "elected." The reason Jesus came into the world was to save all who will accept Him. "For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved" (John 3:17). Yes, God knows who will and who will not come to Christ. Whatever your decision, it does not shock God (as we shall see in the next lesson).

This lesson presents an open Gospel to all the people everywhere. Dr. J. Vernon McGee, former Pastor of the Church of the Open Door in Los Angeles, tells a story that sums up this lesson. A young lad was being questioned by some deacons about his salvation experience. The deacons asked, "How did you get saved?": The lad answered, "God did His part and I did my part." The men then asked, "What was God's part and your part?" The young boy said, "God's part was saving and my part was sinning. I ran from Him as fast as I could, but He took out after me till He ran me down." That is God and that is human nature. Ever since Adam hid from God in the garden, man has been hiding -- God has been seeking.

If you are not a Christian, "*come*" to Jesus. He will save you. You will be in the "elect" of God.