

# Election: How God Chooses

December 17, 2017

**OT**

**Ex 33:18-23**

Ex 33:18 Moses said, "Please show me your glory."<sup>19</sup> And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.

<sup>20</sup> But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live."<sup>21</sup> And the LORD said, "Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock,<sup>22</sup> and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by."<sup>23</sup> Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen."

**NT**

**Eph 1:3-6**

Eph 1:3 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, 4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

## Context? (introduction)

*So far in Ephesians:*

- Last Sunday: Ephesians – election, God's right to choose.
- One Need (ours): Election → confusion and offense.
- *One Solution (Jesus):* election = ministry of the gospel (170+ ref.)
- *Joy & Glory!:* 3-part series, election
  - God's right to choose
  - **How God chooses**

- Why God chooses

## Focus? (attention)

*Gospel focus: How can I know I'm chosen?*

## Text? (explanation)

*The Big Topic:* How God chooses, basis and means

**Elect = Gr. eklogay transliterated elect, divine choice**

*Does God choose us on the basis of something in us?*

*Error of foreknew*

Rom 8:29 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.

1Pe 1:20-21 21 **[Jesus] was foreknown before the foundation of the world** but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through him are believers in God, 21 who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

Rom 11:1-5 1 I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. 2 **God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.**

Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel? 3 "Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life." 4 But what is God's reply to him? "I have kept for myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal."

5 So too at the present time there is a remnant, **chosen by grace.**

*? What basis does God use to choose us?*

*His own will!, and nothing else!*

Rom 9:16 So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.

Jas 1:18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

2Ti 1:9 [God] who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,

*What is the means God uses to effect his choice of us?*

### *Means of the Spirit*

2Th 2:13-14 13 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. 14 To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rom 8:30 And those whom he predestined (chosen) he also called (to believe in Jesus), and those whom he called he also justified (made right with him), and those whom he justified he also gave them his glory.

### *Means of Grace*

1Th 1:4-5 4 For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in the Holy Spirit's power with full conviction of its truth. You know we proved to be men who lived by what we preached.

2Ti 2:10 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.

*How can I know I'm chosen?*

Rom 8:31-33 31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.