

Election And Free Will

In salvation there is the divine side and — the God side often called “Election”

“Election, the Chosen the elect or the called ones.”

Also in salvation there is the human side — the will of man; whosoever; as many as; receives; called “the will of man”

These two truths are called “Election” and “Free Will.”

The nucleus of both of these truths was simply stated by the great scholar Henry Ward Beecher. He said, the elect are the whosoever wills and the non-elect are the whosoever won't”

Paul describes three groups of people in the world today:

“ But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews s stumbling block, and unto Greeks foolishness; but unto them which are called both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. (I Cor. 1:23-24).

Jews - trusted in religion and ritual - to the cross was a stumbling block

Greeks - (Gentiles) trusted in philosophy and human wisdom - Foolishness

The Called - Jews & Greeks = Chosen - the cross the power of God unto salvation.

The called - the Elected, “heard God's call and responded

Election in the Old Testament

God Chose, Elected, Israel (Corporate Election)

After the flood, God selected one man to become the father of a new nation, a peculiar people. (Gen.12:2) “Abraham”

God Chose Israel for His Sovereign Purpose

Israel was chosen, elected, to witness and illustrate to the world the blessing of serving the true God. (Deut. 33:26-29).

To receive, preserve, and transmit the Scriptures (Deut. 4:5-8)

To produce the Lord Jesus Christ, a Jew, of the seed of Abraham and the tribe of Judah

(Gen.3:15:) (Isa.7: 14 ;9:6).

God Elects, Chooses, Individuals

(Gen.12:1) Abraham is a great example of divine election in O.T.

God's Part — the choosing, electing (Gen.11:8).

Abraham's Part — Obeying God (Gen. 17:19).

Election In The New Testament

Election Was Before the Foundation of the World. (Eph. 1:4)
God provided a way for all to accept Him to be chosen — elected
Write in the words of Jesus in (John 15:16)

Paul and the Apostles were Elected
Paul's conversion was not by accident (Acts9:15)
All Apostles are included - (Acts10:41)
Ananias confirmed the election (choosing) of Paul. (22:13)

The Saved Are Elected - the Church, the Bride of Christ.

(II Thess. 2:13)

Refer back to (I Thess. 1:4)
Write in (II Tim. 2:10)

The scattered Saints were elected
The body of Christ is scattered all over the world. They are still the elected, the chosen,
because they believed in Jesus Christ. Under line (I Peter 1:1&2).

Election is certain and sure to all who freely exercise their free will in accepting
Christ. God, in Christ, does the electing and that is God's responsibility.

Man must realize

His need of a Savior — repent and accept Jesus on his own volition. That is man's responsibility.

The Free Will Of Man

Man Must Choose for Himself

We are to believe in God's elective purpose and also believe that He has given us the "Will" to choose.

One must accept God's plan of Salvation — that why Christ died. (John 3:16)

Jesus said come unto Me, all ye that labor and are Heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matt. 8:28).

"Whosoever" Follows Jesus — Denies Self

The word "whosoever" is all inclusive. It includes all who will accept Christ — Jews or Gentiles, rich, or poor, the good and the bad. (Rom. 8:32)

God Calls — The Individual Must Answer

Jesus states these two truths in one verse of Scripture.

"All that the Father gives Me shall come to Me." The Father, Through the Person of the Holy Spirit, woos, draws, convicts. That is God's work.

"And him that comes to Me I will in no wise cast out." (John 6:37).

How Does One Know if He/She is Elected?

(John 1:12)

Seven times Jesus speaks of Christians as having been given to Him by the Father — John 17:2,6

Jesus Christ is God's gift to the world; believers are the Father's gift to Jesus Christ.

The Last Invitation in the Bible

Jesus, the root and offspring of David, said, “ And the Spirit (Holy Spirit) and the bride (the Church) say, Come. And let him that heareth say Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will let him take the water of life freely.” (Revelation 22:16-17).