

God Chose You!

Ephesians 1:1-6

Ephesians 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To God's holy people in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus: ² Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessings

*Ephesians 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every **spiritual blessing in Christ**.*

“Blessing” –

- New understanding.
- New power.
- New inclination.
- New purpose.

Galatians 5:22 The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

“In Christ”

Predestination thinking

- What does the bible say?
- The issue involves the love of God and the justice of God.

Exodus 34:6 The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, ⁷ maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished....

- Predestination has a very strong positive edge to it.

Romans 8:7 The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so.

- He desires all to be saved

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

- The issue of human freedom

Galatians 4:8 Formerly, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods.

Galatians 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.

I am only genuinely free when I am free from my natural obsession with myself, my present life, my future life, my relationships, and become free in thankful obedience for injecting Himself into my life.

Election

1. Election: God Chose Me.

*Ephesians 1:4 For **He chose us in Him before the creation of the world** to be holy and blameless in His sight.*

John 15:16 You did not choose me, but I chose you, and appointed you that you should bear fruit...

- The hopelessness of our condition without Christ!!

Romans 3:10-11 There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God.

John 6:37 All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away.

2. Election: I'm Chosen to Live Like Christ.

*Ephesians 1:4 For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be **holy and blameless in His sight.***

Hebrews 12:14 Without holiness no man shall see the Lord.

Isaiah 1:18 Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. Though they are red like crimson, they shall become like lamb's wool.

3. Election: I'm Chosen Because of Love.

*Ephesians 1:5 In love He **predestined** us to be adopted as His sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with His pleasure and will...*

4. Election: I'm Chosen Because of Grace.

Ephesians 1:6 ...to the praise of His glorious grace, which He has freely given us in the One He loves.

“The design of redemption ...is to exhibit the grace of God in such a conspicuous manner as to fill all hearts with wonder and all lips with praise.” – Charles Hodge

Our response?