

## DOCTRINE OF "ELECTION"

One of the most confused and highly debated and Christian Doctrines is election. The reason it is so confusing to so many is because it is part of the salvation package.

The problem in the debate is that the main point is left out of the debate. Otherwise there is no confusion and no debate. The normal debate goes something like this, "Did God chose you or did you choose God?"

You always know when a doctrinal debate is promoted by the devil because CHRIST is taken out of the central position of the discussion. The issue is not just between man and God but between man and CHRIST and God.

"Jesus said to him (Thomas), 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.'" (Jn.14:6)

"This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, **and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all**, the testimony borne at the proper time."  
(1Tim.2:3-6)

Election is looking at salvation from God's side through Jesus Christ. Here is a simple definition of the doctrine of election: **God chose Christ. When man chooses Christ, man is chosen of God.**

"He saved others; let Him save Himself if this is the Christ of God, His Chosen One." (Lk.23:35) [Crucifixion crowd].

<b>This lesson will study four aspects of the doctrine of election.</b>
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After this lesson, there shouldn't be any confusion over this doctrine in you life. Put this doctrine through the faith cycle under the ministry of the indwelling Holy Spirit (2 Pet.3:17-18; Jn.14:26).

**1. At the eternal life conference, the sovereignty of the Godhead elected Jesus Christ to hold the central position in the plan of God (2 Tim.1:9-10).**

"Therefore if any man is **in Christ**, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come." (2Cor.5:17) [Positional truth]; (1Cor.1:9)

"He who believes in the Son has eternal life' but he who does not obey **the Son** shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." (Jn.3:36)

"The one who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the witness that God has borne concerning His Son. And the witness is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son." (1Jn.5:10-11)

"And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had been appointed (eimi / impf.a.ind 3pl / Tasso / perf.p.ptc. nplm) [pluperfect periphrastic / eternal life conference] to eternal life believed (pisteuo / a.a.ind3pl)." (Acts 13:48)

**2. It was decreed at the eternal life conference that those who believed the gospel of Jesus Christ would be placed in union with Christ and share in His election (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16).**

“But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has **chosen** you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth. And it was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (2 Thess.2:13-14)

“**Just as He chose us in Him** before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.” (Eph.1:4-6)

“I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel.” (Gal.1:6)

### 3. **At the eternal life conference, election was decreed by the foreknowledge of the omniscience of God.**

Omniscience knows all that would have been involved had He adopted anyone of an infinite number of plans of action.

Foreknowledge refers to only what God did adopt and decreed as the plan of God and not the alternatives.

“For He (Christ) **was foreknown** before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you. Who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.” (1 Pet.1:20-21)

“Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, **who are chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father**, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, that you may obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood: May grace and peace be yours in fullest measure.” (1 Pet.1:1-2)

### 4. **Believers are the chosen in each dispensation of the plan of God (Col.3:12’ Ps.33:11; 147:5).**

“But you are a **chosen** race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for god’s own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.” (1Pet.2:9; Ex.19:6)

“And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, he also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that he might be the firstborn among the brethren; and whom He predestined, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.” (Rom.8:28-30)

“Greet Rufus, a **choice** (eklektos) man in the Lord, also his mother and mine.” (Rom.16:13)

## **ELECTION**

**GOD CHOSE CHRIST.**

**WHEN YOU CHOOSE CHRIST,**

**YOU ARE CHOSEN OF GOD.**