

Election and Freewill
2015.11.8 Tough Questions Series

Why did you choose to follow Christ?

- Where you a little better than others?
- What is luck?
- Did God have a plan in choosing you?

Ephesians 2:8-9

Grace - unmerited favor.

Faith - God gives us faith. Hebrews 12:2 (Jesus is the founder and perfecter)
“this is not your own doing” “not works”

There is no luck Proverbs 16:33 (every decision is from the Lord)

So in short, the reason some follow Christ is:

- that **God choses some and not others.**

It's a Biblical example: Romans 9:10-13

- **So the purpose of election is so that no one can boast.**

If there was something in you that would choose God, it would not be total grace.

- So We Owe God Everything

Election Def:

"An act of God before creation in which he chooses some people to be saved, not on account of any foreseen merit in them, but only because of his sovereign good pleasure."

Evidences in Scripture of Election:

Acts 13:48 - As many as were appointed to eternal life believed.

Ephesians 1:4-5 - Chose us in Him before the foundation of the world.

Question:

How can God love and desire that the whole world be saved, but only choose some?

1 Tim 2:4 - God desire for all to be saved.

John 3:16 - God loved the whole world.

Ezekiel 33:11 - No pleasure in the death of the wicked
- **God's wisdom trumps desire.**

Purposes of Election:

- **We can have assurance of God's good intentions for us.**

Romans 8:28-30

God has always had good in mind for us so probably right now He also has good in mind for us.

- **God's justice brings Him glory too.**

Read Romans 9:12-18 Talk about Pharaoh

Read Romans 9:19-23 God is not a tame kitten, He's a ferocious lion. CS Lewis.

"I have swallowed up girls and boys, women and men, kings and emperors, cities and realms," said the Lion. It didn't say this as if it were boasting, nor as if it were sorry, nor as if it were angry. It just said it."

– C.S. Lewis, *The Silver Chair*

"Safe?" said Mr. Beaver; "don't you hear what Mrs. Beaver tells you? Who said anything about safe? 'Course he isn't safe. But he's good. He's the King, I tell you."

– C.S. Lewis, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*

- God doesn't lash out in anger, but moves in wisdom
- We should stand back and see God with a great awe.

- But we can remember what God says about us in Romans 9:25-26

Summary:

And so God wants all to be saved, but above all that is God's wisdom in making His glory known. His glory will also be made known by his justice and wrath against unbelievers who have sinned deeply against him. Even though God loves people, his glory is above all of that.

Freewill:

So what about Freewill? If only those who God chooses will follow Him and those He doesn't don't, the where is our freewill, and what fault is it of

those whom God does not choose?

- God doesn't force you to choose Him.

Imagine people running blindfolded to fire. God removes the blindfolds of some and then of course they will see the fire and turn.

Matthew 11:25 - God reveals truth to us

John 12:37-40 - if they turned God would heal them.

So ultimately we have a choice, we're not forced, and in the end it's on us if we don't follow God.

This may not seem fair, and you may wonder how can people whom God hasn't revealed himself to can be blamed.

Two answers:

- Romans 9:19-21 - Who are you oh man.

- What is fair in the Bible? Romans 3:23

fair in the Bible is for God to save no one. if God only saved 1 person that would be mercy, grace even.

Revelation 7:9-10 a great multitude.

- So thank God that He is not fair.

If there's anything you can learn from today it's to have a great awe of who God is. Of his power to save people as far from him as we are, but he takes our sin as far as east from west (Psalm 103:12) and says Romans 9:25-26 He called us Beloved

Message Summary:

- Nothing you did

- Assurance of God's good intentions for us

- It's about God's glory, His justice brings him that too.

- God is not a tame kitten but a mighty lion and we can stand back and look at Him in awe.

- For all of that might and reason not to love us he calls us beloved.

Action points:

- For all you are, God chose to call you beloved. Romans 9:25-26

- And if you're not His beloved yet, this can be your day. I believe that if

you are here, then God is calling to you. Become His beloved today.
- As we go through our week lets remember that there are others God has chosen and called around us, so let's tell them about Christ and find out who they are. Let's find out who God wants to call his beloved, because even though He's chosen who he will save his plan is for us to go and tell them. God wants to use you to deliver His call to His people.