

“Understanding the Doctrine of Election and Predestination”
Galatians 1:15-16

“Up to that point, I had given little thought to the doctrine of election, so I didn’t really understand it. My immature, arrogant impression was that it was one of those peripheral, controversial doctrines that people with too much time, and too little concern for lost and hurting souls, liked to debate.” (John Piper)

- “But when He...”: God is the *GREAT CAUSE* of our salvation, transformation, and sanctification. Our actions MATTER, but they are secondary to God’s actions and God’s will....“*And because of HIM you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, ‘Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.’ ” (1 Corinthians 1:30-31)*
- “...who had set me apart before I was born...”: God has a *GREAT PLAN* that He is operating according to and nothing can ultimately impede GOD’S PLAN. Again our faith MATTERS, but it is not ultimate in our salvation. “*Even 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 for adoption to Himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will.*” (Ephesians 1:4-5)
- “...and who called me by His grace...”: We are not saved because of OUR WORKS or OUR QUALIFICATIONS. We bring nothing to the table but OUR SINS. EVERYTHING good that God does towards us and for us is because of His *GREAT GRACE!* “*For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.*” (Ephesians 2:8-9)
- “...[He] was pleased to reveal His Son to me...”: God saves us according to His *GREAT JOY* and LOVE. “*looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the JOY that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God*” (Hebrews 12:2). “*Just so, I tell you, there will be more JOY in heaven over one sinner who represents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance*” (Luke 15:7). “*Just so, I tell you, there is JOY before the angels of God over one sinner who repents*” (Luke 15:10).

“In the Bible, divine sovereignty (election and predestination) and human responsibility are not enemies. They are not uneasy neighbors; they are not in an endless state of cold war with each other. They are friends, and they work together.” (J.I. Packer)

- “...in order that I might preach Him among the Gentiles...”: The idea of Election and Predestination according to God’s plan and purpose is throughout the Scriptures (Jeremiah: Jeremiah 1:4-5; The Apostles: John 15:16; Everyone: Acts 13:48; Ephesians 2:10).
- What this Doctrine doesn't mean:
 - That Christ’s offer of salvation to all is not a genuine offer to all (John 3:16; Romans 10:13; 1 Timothy 4:10; 1 John 2:2).
 - That Evangelism is worthless or a waste of time (Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 10:13-17; 15:20-21).
 - That mankind is not responsible for their actions (John 5:22-29; Romans 2:6-11; 3:19-20; James 1:13-14).
 - That man does not choose by faith, to be saved (Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Joshua 24:14-15; Matthew 11:28; John 3:16; *John 6:35-44*; Romans 10:17).

“We dive into doctrine because true humility and wisdom is found in recognizing how little we really know and that we don’t have to be able to wrap our minds around something in order to find it beautiful.” (Randy Alcorn)

(Continued →)

Worship: Nothing But The Blood Of Jesus — Various Artists
In Tenderness — The Sing Team

God Omniscient God All Knowing — Matt Boswell

Closing Song: Tis So Sweet — Various Artists

Service Times: Sundays: Pneumatology Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;
Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

- What this Doctrine does mean:
 - That because of God's Sovereignty my salvation is safe and secure. God saved me and God sustains me (John 10:28; Romans 8:29-30; 1 Corinthians 1:7-9; Philippians 1:6; Hebrews 7:25).
 - That God must give me the ability to understand my need for the gospel before I can respond to the gospel (John 6:44; Romans 3:11; 10:17; 1 Corinthians 2:14; 2 *Corinthians* 4:3-6).
 - It is a Biblical idea to believe in God's sovereignty and to take actions in light of God's sovereignty (2 Corinthians 8:16-17; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 1:28-29).
 - That even though God is all-knowing, predestines, and is all-powerful, He has emotional responses to things as they happen in time (Luke 15:7,10,20; Ephesians 4:30; Hebrews 13:15-16; 2 Peter 3:9).
- The four wills of God in Scripture:
 - *Directive will of God*: What God desires me to think, to do, and where to go.
 - *Permissive will of God*: Where negative volition in man is permitted to act contrary to the will of God.
 - *Sovereign will of God*: When God acts according to His free and independent choice to do whatever He pleases.
 - *Overruling will of God*: When God hinders His creatures from acting contrary to His sovereign purposes.

“You will certainly carry out God’s purpose, however you choose to act, but it makes a massive difference to you whether you serve like Judas or like John.” (C.S. Lewis)

Account Balance: \$27,297.26 August Balance: \$25,667.87	Weekly Budget: \$3,157
Total Giving: September 4	\$4,918
Total Giving: September 11	\$2,598
Total Giving: September 18	\$2,737
Total Giving: September 25	\$2,465

Announcements:

★**MEMBERS MEETING:** We will be having a Members Meeting TONIGHT, immediately following the worship service to discuss and vote on the potential move to the church building across the street. If you are currently a church member, please plan on staying for this important meeting!

★**HOUSEWARMING POTLUCK AND BONFIRE:** On Saturday, October 15th, at 3pm everyone is invited to the housewarming potluck and bonfire at Frank and Kira Carter’s residence (8855 Township Road 57 NE; Roseville). Hotdogs will be provided, please bring a food item to share and your own lawn chair! Please RSVP to Kira (740) 475-9935.

★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner NEXT Sunday, October 9th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the back table, please sign-up to bring something. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us.