

## Elected in Christ

**Ephesians 1:4 just as He (God the Father) chose us (every believer in Jesus Christ as Savior) in Him...**

What does it mean to be chosen by God?

What is divine Election?

### *Doctrine of Election*

I. **Problem:** Does God arbitrarily choose who will believe and who will not believe? Who will be saved and who will not be saved?

Did God create all mankind and then just choose who would spend eternity in the Lake of Fire and who will be in the eternal state?

The hyper-Calvinist position is that this is exactly what God does. And then, they call this grace. Well, this is grace for those elected under their view of God, but it can hardly be considered grace to those whom God does not choose.

There is another view of Election, that we shall call the grace interpretation of Scripture and of this election.

II. To correctly understand the doctrine of Election, we must start with the only one in all history who is truly elected.

That is Jesus Christ; Jesus Christ is the only person elected from Eternity Past.

Elected in Christ  
Ephesians 1:4

A. My Chosen One

**Isaiah 42:1 "Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold; My chosen one in whom My soul delights. I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations.**

**Behold.** Take full note.

**My servant.** *ebed* – One who serves the desire or goal of another.

**Whom I uphold.** The Hebrew means to uphold, to support. He tells us how He *upholds* His servant-**I have put my spirit upon Him.**

He upholds Him by His Spirit, the Holy Spirit. Again, what kind of God do you have? What is your view of God? God never asks of us anything that He has not yet given.

Hold your place and look at

**Galatians 3:5 Does He (God the Father) then, who provides (supplies) you (the believer) with the Spirit (Holy Spirit) and works miracles among you, even working power *IN* you do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?**

By the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit, we are sealed and cannot lose our Salvation, but we still have free will to access the

**Elected in Christ**  
**Ephesians 1:4**

empowerment of the Holy Spirit by faith or not. This is by the Grace of God, for otherwise we would fail and sin.

Back to Isaiah 42:1

**Isaiah 42:1 Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold;...**

Now we come to our study of the election of Jesus Christ.

**My chosen one.** King James translates it as mine elect.

Next, we have an *adjective* used to specify just who His servant is:

*bahir* meaning chosen; Chosen for a special mission! Therefore, it is used of others in Scripture but *only one* was *chosen* for the mission of being the Messiah.

Next, we have a special relationship between God and His elect.

**in whom My soul delights.** The Hebrew word means to delight in, to take pleasure in; to accept. Look at

**Matthew 12:18 Behold my servant whom I have chosen; my beloved in whom my soul is well pleased; I Will put my Spirit upon Him and He shall proclaim justice to the Gentiles.**

**Matthew 3:17 and behold, a voice out of the heavens, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."**

Elected in Christ  
Ephesians 1:4

**Matthew 17:5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!"**

Back to Isaiah 42:1

**Isaiah 42:1 Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold; My chosen one in whom My soul delights. I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations.**

**So, Jesus Christ is the only person elected from eternity past.**

Now, let's look at two passages that we did not look at in our flow of Greek words:

**Luke 23:35 and the people stood by, looking on. And even the rulers were sneering at Him, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if this is the Christ of God, His Chosen One."**

**The Christ.** Messiah, the anointed one,

**The Christ, the anointed one of God.** His chosen one. This is the adjective *electos*. One chosen, one elected by God.

**Elected in Christ**  
**Ephesians 1:4**

The scary thing here is that while they are sneering at Him, they actually say the truth, which of course is condemnation on themselves.

For in truth Jesus Christ is the only one elected by God! in Eternity Past for this mission.

**1 Peter 2:6 For *this* is contained in Scripture: "Behold I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious corner *stone*, and He who believes in Him shall not be disappointed.**

See that word **choice stone**? Well that is our adjective *electos* and only King James Translates it **elect: I lay in Zion an elect stone, a precious corner stone.**

B. This election of Jesus Christ took place in Eternity Past, in the Eternal-Life conference and we share His election. Ephesians 1:4; 1 Peter 1:2. No one is elected outside of Christ, that is, no one is elected to believe in Jesus Christ. But once one does believe in Jesus as Savior they are positioned in Christ and therefore share His election.

C. In Eternity Past God the Father purposed a plan in Jesus Christ. The Plan of God centers on person of Jesus Christ. Eph. 3:11.

So, Jesus Christ is the only one elected in Eternity Past. But even then, He, as God made the decision, choice to come and die for the human race.

Elected in Christ  
Ephesians 1:4

**John 10:17 For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it again.**

**John 10:18 No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. (Free will decision) I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father.”**

III. The heart of the Doctrine of Election:

- A. Jesus Christ is the only one elected/predestined by God.
- B. All members of the human race are potentially elected to the Plan of God because of Unlimited Atonement. 2 Tim. 2:10; 1 John 2:1-2.
- C. The election of believers is that we are elected **in Christ**, not to be in Christ, or saved but all who believe are in the election of Jesus Christ. We share His election.

As an example: a father and mother elect *whomever their son marries to be in the family*. They do not elect or choose who will marry their son, but whomever does marry their son, is elected into the family because she is one in their son. On a personal basis they may not like the girl who chooses to marry their son, but they have already decided that they will elect that person into the family.

**Elected in Christ  
Ephesians 1:4**

This is an analogy of our Election, we are not elected to believe or not believe in His Son, but we are elected in Christ once we believe in Him.

God the Father elected, chose, predestined Jesus Christ in Eternity Past. Then, He elected, chose, predestined all who believe in Jesus as their Savior.

Jesus Christ is THE elected one, THE predestined one, and you share this election by choosing for Christ by faith in Jesus Christ.

**Ephesians 1:4 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,**

**Just as He.** God the Father.

**chose us.** verb of election.

**in Him.** The place of election is in Christ. And question: how are we in Christ? By faith in Jesus Christ. At the point of faith in Christ we are placed by the Holy Spirit in Christ and at that point we share the election of Jesus Christ.

**Just as He chose us in Him, before the foundation of the world, before the creation of the world.** Some point in Eternity Past.

**Elected in Christ  
Ephesians 1:4**

**that we should be holy and blameless.** As Jesus Christ is holy and blameless. You see, we are not chosen because we are holy and blameless but by being *in Christ*, God makes us holy and blameless and at that point we share His election.

**before Him.** God the Father.

**In love He.** God the Father.

**predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ.** We now share the adoption of Jesus Christ as sons of God by faith in Jesus Christ. We are not elected because we are sons of God. But, once we do believe, we are baptized into union with Christ and now share His Sonship.

**to Himself,** God the Father.

**according to the kind intention of His will,** This is grace.

**2 Timothy 1:9 who (God the Father) has saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,**

Again, note when this took place—Eternity Past.

Jesus Christ is the only elected or predestined. We share the election of His Son, Jesus the Christ.

Therefore, we experience Election at the moment of Salvation—saving Faith in Jesus Christ. 2 Thessalonians 2:13.



**Elected in Christ**  
**Ephesians 1:4**

IV. It is not the character of God to create anyone to be in the eternal Lake of Fire.

**2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow about His promise, (as to final events in history) as some count slowness, but is patient (in the sequence of human history, dispensations) toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.** (It is against God's character and His Word, that any should be elected or predestined to second death or the eternal Lake of Fire.)

**Romans 10:13 for whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved**

But, there are those who claim that He does not allow everyone to call Him, if they choose to do so...This is blasphemy of God's character and contradicts Scripture.

**2 Chronicles 19:7 (NASB) "Now then let the fear of the Lord be upon you; be very careful what you do, for the Lord our God will have no part in unrighteousness, or partiality, or the taking of a bribe."**

**2 Chronicles 19:7 (King James) Wherefore now let the fear of the LORD be upon you; take**

Elected in Christ  
Ephesians 1:4

heed and do it: for there is no iniquity with the LORD our God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of gifts.

**2 Chronicles 19:7 (NIV) Now let the fear of the LORD be upon you. Judge carefully, for with the LORD our God there is no injustice or partiality or bribery."**

Three different translations of the Hebrew word *awel* which can be translated in any of the three ways: **no part in Un Righteousness; no iniquity; no injustice;** the word means Un Righteousness; injustice or iniquity; it refers to anything that deviates from the Right way of doing things, determined by the fairness of God.

So, it would be against the Character of God and His Word for God to choose someone to go to the Lake of Fire.

**Principle:** Do not be caught in the debaters trap of taking one verse, which perhaps you do not understand right now, to try to prove a theory that is in opposition to the divine principles set forth in Scripture after Scripture—or that is not compatible with the Character of God given in Scripture.

Go over and think your way through what have studied and do not be blasphemous as to the Sovereignty of God.

What is your view of the Sovereignty of God?

**Elected in Christ**  
**Ephesians 1:4**

- V. The idea that anyone is elected to hell or heaven without the freedom of faith decision in Jesus Christ is:
- A. Incompatible with the grace of God: Is it grace to be elected to spend eternity in the Lake of Fire? No.
  - B. Incompatible with the character of God (view of God).
  - C. It makes a farce out of the Grace Plan of God.
  - D. It impugns the essence of God, namely: Sovereignty, love, Righteousness/Justice; faithfulness and fairness of God.
- VI. Election is based on the decision of God, on the will of God, not on the decision of man or will of man. We cannot will to be elected, and our decision of faith simply appropriates the will of God to be in the elect.
- The Bible sets up principles about God: like grace, and love and fairness of and God does not violate these principles.
- Ephesians 1:4. Romans 11:5 and 28; Mark 13:20; James 2:5  
1 Thessalonians 1:4.
- VII. Election is based on the person of Jesus Christ and we are elected in Christ, we share many things with Jesus Christ, along with His election:
- A. His life. 1 John 5:11-12.
  - B. His +R (Righteousness). 2 Corinthians 5:21.
  - C. His Sonship. Galatians 3:26; John 1:12.

**Elected in Christ**  
**Ephesians 1:4**

D. His Heirship. Romans 8:16-17.

E. His Priesthood. 1 Peter 2:5 and 9.

F. His Rulership. Colossians 1:13 and 2 Peter. 1:11.

G. His Sanctification. 1 Corinthians 1:2.

H. His Destiny. Ephesians 1:5 and 11. And

I. His Election. 1 Peter 1:2 and Ephesians 1:4.

VIII. This election took place in Eternity Past (Divine Decrees). Jesus Christ was elected in Eternity Past. God made a decision in Eternity Past to elect any and all who believed in His Son, Jesus the Christ. 2 Timothy 1:9; Ephesians 1:4; 1 Peter 1:2.

IX. Election is on the basis of Grace Romans 11:5 and Galatians 1:6.

X. Election is always on the foundation of faith in Jesus Christ as Savior. 2 Thessalonians 2:13. Election becomes effective the moment we believe in Jesus Christ.

You share this election by choosing to believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior.

A passage that puts a lot of this together:

**1 Peter 1:1 ...who are chosen**

**1 Peter 1:2 according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, (this happened in Eternity Past, based on the Omniscience of God) by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, (Holy Spirit**

**Elected in Christ**  
**Ephesians 1:4**

sanctifies us that you may obey Jesus Christ. How do we obey Jesus Christ? By faith, John 3:36) **and be sprinkled with His blood:** (come under the covering of His efficacious work on the cross of His Spiritual death) **May grace and peace be yours in fullest measure** – (and if you walk in the Holy Spirit by faith it will be!)

- XI. Personal Orientation to election comes through Biblical truth in the human spirit. Titus 1:1.
- XII. Election is the present as well as future blessing of every believer. Therefore, your Election should have an impact on your present life:

**Colossians 3:12 And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;**

**Colossians 3:13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.**

**Elected in Christ  
Ephesians 1:4**

XIII. Election is the basis of facing suffering with blessing.

**Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, (this only by the Holy Spirit) to those who are called according to *His* purpose.**

Please enjoy your election in Christ every day in everything you do or say or think!