

# Unconditional Election

## I. Unconditional Election Defined

- † Because of Adam's transgression, his descendants enter the world as **guilty, lost** sinners.
- † It would have been perfectly **just** for God to have left all men in their sin and misery and to have shown mercy to **none**.
- † It is in this context that the Bible sets forth the doctrine of **election**.
- † The doctrine of election declares that God, **before** the foundation of the world, **chose** certain individuals from among the fallen members of Adam's race to be the objects of His **undeserved** favor.
- † God could have chosen to save **all** men (for He had the power and authority to do so) or He could have chosen to save **none** (for He was under no obligation to show mercy to any) – but He did neither.
- † Election was not determined by, or conditioned upon, anything that men would do, but resulted **entirely** from God's self-determined purpose.
- † The doctrine of election **must** be viewed against the backdrop of total depravity.
- † We see the triune God at work in election: the Father **chose** out of the world of lost sinners a definite number of individuals and gave them to the Son to be His people. The Son, under the terms of this compact, agreed to do all that was necessary to **save** those "chosen" and "given" to Him by the Father. The Spirit's part in the execution of this covenant was to **apply** to the elect the salvation secured for them by the Son.

## II. Unconditional Election **Defended**

### 1) A **Chosen** People

- † There are general statements in Scripture that God has an **elect** people, and that He **predestined** them to salvation, and thus to eternal life.
  - Deuteronomy 10:14-15, Psalm 65:4, Matthew 11:27, Romans 8:28-30

### 2) Election Not Based on **Foreseen** Responses

- † Before the foundation of the world, God chose particular individuals for salvation. His selection was not based upon any foreseen response or act performed by those chosen. Faith and good works are the **result**, not the **cause**, of God's choice.

#### A. **God** did the choosing.

- 1 Thessalonians 1:4, 2 Thessalonians 2:13
- Explain the error of God "foreseeing"

#### B. God's choice was made **before** the foundation of the world.

- 2 Timothy 1:9

#### C. God's choice was not based upon any foreseen **works** residing in those whom He chose.

- Romans 9:11-13, 1 Corinthians 1:27-29

#### D. God's choice was not based upon foreseen faith. Faith is a **gift** from God demonstrating His sovereignty in election.

- Acts 13:48, Philippians 1:29

### 3) Election **Precedes** Salvation

- † Election is not salvation, but is **for** salvation. Just as the president-elect does not become the president of the United States until he is inaugurated, so those chosen for salvation are

not saved **until** they are regenerated by the Spirit and justified by faith in Christ.

- 2 Timothy 2:10, (read Eph. And Rom. together)  
Ephesians 1:4, Romans 16:7
- Explain how this refutes the error of “lazy” evangelism

#### 4) Sovereign **Mercy**

- ✠ Election was based on the sovereign, distinguishing mercy of almighty God. It was not **man's** will, but **God's** will, that determined which sinners would be shown mercy and saved.
  - Matthew 20:1-15
  - Give out money example

#### 5) Sovereignty over **All** Things

- ✠ The doctrine of election is but a part of the much broader biblical doctrine of God's **absolute** sovereignty. The Scriptures teach not only that God predestined certain individuals to eternal life, but that all events, both **small** and **great**, come about as the result of God's eternal declaration.
  - 1 Chronicles 29:10-12, Isaiah 46:9-11