

Sermon Notes



Title: "The Sovereign and Amazing Electing-Love of God"

Text: Ephesians 1:3-14

Theme: God's sovereign election is such a critical truth of Scripture that if you fail to embrace it, your view of God will never rise above your view of yourself. God is either the author of your redemption, or you are. Scripture teaches that it is God, and only God who brings salvation.

I. The Teaching of Ephesians 1:3-14 with Respect to Sovereign Election

- A. The Triune God _____ and _____ cosmic reconciliation and redemption to the praise of _____.
- B. God _____ His people - v. 4
- C. God _____ His people for adoption - v. 5
- D. God _____ all things according to His _____ for the praise of His _____ - vv. 11-12

II. A Statement of This Biblical Teaching of Sovereign Election

- In order to make known His own _____ and based on His own good _____ and pleasure, God has _____ determined that some people and angels will inherit eternal life not based upon anything He _____ as good in them or what they might do in the _____.

III. What This Truth Emphasizes

IV. What Sovereign Election Does Not Mean

V. Why This Teaching Is Important

VI. What God's Sovereign Election Means for You

- A. That I have _____ to _____ about before God for my _____.
- B. That I am completely at the _____ of God for my salvation.
- C. That my salvation is _____ because it _____ on God
- D. That I must _____ God _____ for my redemption, future glory, and happiness

Next Week Read: John 10:1-18

Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group:
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1. What is the main theme of Ephesians 1:3-14?
2. Who does the choosing according to this passage (vv. 4, 5, 11)?
3. When were Christians chosen (v. 4a)?
4. What is the goal of this election (v. 4b)?
5. Unto what were "we" predestined (v. 5a)?
6. What is the basis for the choice made (v. 5b)?
7. What is the result of election (v. 6a)?
8. What do those predestined obtain (v. 11a)?
9. Upon what is this predestination based (v. 11b)?
10. How comprehensive is God's will (v. 11c)?
11. What is the traditional (historical) phrase for the "Doctrine of Grace" that the lesson today described as "Sovereign Election"?
12. What does "Conditional Election" intend to assert distinct from "Sovereign Election"?
13. What possible condition would God use to base His choice of those who are saved?
14. What does Sovereign Election emphasize?
15. What wrong conclusions do people often draw from God's sovereign election?
16. How important is this truth about God's sovereign election?
17. Why do people object to the concept of an unconditional election by God unto salvation?
18. What kind of a defense for God's choice does Paul employ in Romans 9:1-21?
19. How would you respond to the accusation that God is unfair or arbitrary to choose one person for salvation and not another? (See Isaiah 29:16; Jeremiah 18:1-6; Romans 9; Matthew 20:1-16)
20. How do you personally react to the concept that God chooses whom He is pleased to eternally belong to Him as His people? Why?
21. Can we boast that we are saved because we had faith to believe the Gospel and others did not? Why or why not?
22. Does God owe anyone eternal life? Does God owe mercy to anyone? How do you know?
23. Are you obligated to be gracious? Why should a Christian be gracious?
24. On what does the security of your salvation rest?
25. Shouldn't you receive a little bit of credit for believing the Gospel? Why or why not?