

The Canons of Dort (1619)  
**First Head of Doctrine**  
**(Divine Election and Reprobation)**

**LORD'S DAY #10**

**Leader:** The true doctrine concerning election and reprobation having been explained, the Synod rejects the errors of those:

**Paragraph 1**

**Who teach:** That the will of God to save those who would believe and would persevere in faith and in the obedience of faith is the whole and entire decree of election unto salvation, and that nothing else concerning this decree has been revealed in God's Word.

**People:** For these deceive the simple and plainly contradict the Scriptures, which declare that God will not only save those who will believe, but that He has also from eternity chosen certain particular persons to whom, above others, He will grant, in time, both faith in Christ and perseverance; as it is written: *I manifested thy name unto the men whom thou gavest me out of the world. And as many as were ordained to eternal life believed. And: Even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blemish before him in love.*<sup>1</sup>

**Paragraph 2**

**Leader:** Who teach: That there are various kinds of election of God unto eternal life: the one general and indefinite, the other particular and definite; and that the latter in turn is either incomplete, revocable, non-decisive, and conditional, or complete, irrevocable, decisive, and absolute. Likewise: That there is one election unto faith and another unto salvation, so that election can be unto justifying faith, without being a decisive election unto salvation.

**People:** For this is a fancy of men's minds, invented regardless of the Scriptures, whereby the doctrine of election is corrupted, and this golden chain of our salvation is broken: *And whom he foreordained, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.*<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> John 17:6; Acts 13:48; Eph. 1:4

<sup>2</sup> Rom. 8:30