

Chosen to Serve

John 15:16

John 15:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

Introduction

It is often asserted that Calvinism creates a barrier to evangelism and missions. The accusation usually comes in the form of questions. How could those who believe the Scriptures teach predestination and election truly have a heart for missions? If God has determined who shall be saved, why would there be any need to engage in evangelism or missions? And yet, we can safely say that this is an argument lacking historical proof (and theological basis).

It must be acknowledged that Calvinists have not only robustly encouraged, engaged, and propagated missions, but have led some of the great mission's and evangelistic movements in the history of the church. Even a cursory glance at the history of missions and missionaries produces a hall of fame filled with Calvinists. It could rightly be argued that Calvinism is not only **not** a barrier to missions and evangelism, but has actually proven to be **a spur** to missions and evangelism. In fact, it has often been the driving force in missions. This is just a sampling of the history of missions and some notable Calvinists, who have led the way into foreign fields. One doesn't have to be a thorough going Calvinist to be struck by the impact of Calvinism upon missions.

- **John Calvin:** Calvin sent missionaries from Geneva into France and as far away as Brazil. Most of these young men sent to France died a martyr's death, but the church of Geneva continued to send them.
- **John Eliot:** A missionary sent to the American Indians in the 1600's. He is believed to be the first missionary among this people group. As

many have said, if William Carey is the father of the modern mission's movement, then John Eliot is its grandfather.

- **David Brainerd:** A missionary to the American Indians in the 1700's. Many historians believe that he has sent more individuals into the mission field than any other person in the history of the church via his diary, *An Account of the Life of the Late Reverend David Brainerd*.
- **Theodorus Frelinghuysen:** The great evangelist and preacher, who set the stage for the First Great Awakening in the middle colonies.
- **Jonathan Edwards:** The great theologian, writer, and preacher of the First Great Awakening. He was also a missionary to the Indians.
- **George Whitfield:** The great voice and preacher of the First Great Awakening. He journeyed across the Atlantic Ocean thirteen times and scholars believe he preached over 18,000 sermons.
- **William Tennent:** He founded the Log College, which later became Princeton University. This

college trained pastors and provided many of the revivalist preachers of the First Great Awakening.

- **Samuel Davies:** The famous President of the College of New Jersey (Princeton University), preacher of the First Great Awakening, and evangelist to the slaves of Virginia. It is believed that hundreds of slaves came to saving faith through his evangelism efforts.
- **William Carey:** He is the famous missionary to India and is considered the father of the modern mission's movement.
- The origin of Baptist missions sprang up among pastors in England who were decidedly doctrinal in their life and preaching. Andrew Fuller, Samuel Pearce, John Sutcliffe,
- Alexander Duff
- **John G. Paton** was a missionary to the New Hebrides Islands of the South Pacific. He brought to the natives of the New Hebrides education and Christianity.
- **Robert Moffat:** The first missionary to reach the interior of Africa with the Gospel. He translated the entire Bible and Pilgrim's Progress into Setswana.

- **David Livingstone:** Arguably, the most famous missionary to the continent of Africa.
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- **Robert Morrison:** The first Protestant missionary to China and the first to translate the Bible into Chinese.
- **Peter Parker:** An American physician and missionary to China who first introduced Western medical techniques to the Chinese.
- It was said that Parker "opened China to the gospel at the point of a lancet." He also served as the president of the Medical Missionary Society of China.
- **Adoniram Judson:** The famous missionary to Burma, translated the Bible into Burmese, and established multiple Baptist Churches in Burma. His mission work led many to enter the mission field and was foundational for forming the first Baptist association in America.
- **Samuel Zwemer:** He is affectionately known as "The Apostle to Islam." His legacy includes efforts in Bahrain, Arabia, Egypt, and Asia Minor. His writing was used by the Lord to

encourage and mobilize an entire generation of missionaries to labor in Islamic countries.

- **Charles Spurgeon:** The Great Baptist Preacher, who what known for his unwavering commitment to the doctrine of Grace, who has been quoted multiple times for His love of lost souls, and his unending passion to see them come to Christ.
- **D. James Kennedy:** The founder of Evangelism Explosion, which many believe is the most widely used evangelistic training curriculum in church history.

Does Calvinism kill missions? The evidence suggests something wholly other. This is just a small sampling of some of the influential Calvinist missionaries and mission's leaders in the history of the church. Biblical Calvinists understand that God uses means to call His elect to salvation. Therefore, we don't shy away from missions or evangelism. As history shows, Calvinism actually encourages missions and evangelism. In fact, many of the greatest missionaries and leaders in missions throughout the history of the church have been Calvinists.

The Reason is not so much that they just believed in Election. But rather they really believe the Bible when it said that men were dead in their sin, and blind and hostile to the Gospel.

They knew that apart from a miracle of God that no one would be saved.

But they also knew that God had said that He has people all over the the World that he has elected to save.

So they would go on the authority of Gods Word that He had a people in every tribe, tongue and nation.

They would preach and teach and translate and Pray because they knew that God was going to accomplish plan of redemption amount the peoples They knew the Gospel would be successful in the salvation of Souls Because God said it would. He would raise the dead.

Lesson:

John 15:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit

should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

1. We Are Elect to Evangelize

2. We Are Elect to Endure

1. We are Elect to Evangelize

John 15:16 (NKJV)

16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit,

ουχ υμεις με εξελεξασθε αλλ εγω
εξελεξαμην υμας και εθηκα υμας **ινα** υμεις
υπαγητε και καρπον φερητε

16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you

As I mentioned to you earlier, there is more here than just the choice for discipleship or Apostleship.

There is clearly a deeper realization here. Jesus tells them of amazing privileges and provisions that most

people never are given. It reaches its apex when Jesus says that you are my friends.

But this friendship is not a reality because the disciples chose this, but rather because Jesus chose them. They were enemies, now they are friends.

As a result,....

15:16. As so often in this Gospel, where there is the slightest danger that the disciples will puff themselves up because of the privileges they enjoy, Jesus immediately forestalls any pretensions they might have (*cf.* notes on 6:70, 71). In the final analysis, his followers are privy to such revelations not because they are wiser or better and consequently made the right choices, but because Christ chose them.

Carson, D. A. (1991). *The Gospel according to John* (p. 523). Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, MI: Inter-Varsity Press; W.B. Eerdmans.

This is also referred to in
John 6:64–71 (NKJV)

64 But there are some of you who do not believe.”

For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him.

65 And He said, “Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father.”

⁶⁶ From that *time* many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.

⁶⁷ Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?”

⁶⁸ But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

⁶⁹ Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

⁷⁰ Jesus answered them, “Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?” ⁷¹ He spoke of Judas Iscariot, *the son* of Simon, for it was he who would betray Him, being one of the twelve.

“.... Peter’s way of expressing himself appears somewhat pretentious, as if he and his fellows are a cut above the fickle ‘disciples’ who have turned away, superior at least in insight. Indeed, Peter’s words might almost be taken to mean that he is doing Jesus a favour. But Jesus will not allow even a whisper of human pretensions. Ultimately, the Twelve did not choose Jesus; he chose them (though alone amongst the Evangelists, John does not record their actual appointment). Even there, the one catastrophic failure amongst the Twelve was not unforeseen. One of them was a *diabolos*: the word in common Greek means

‘slanderer’ or ‘false accuser’, but in the New Testament it always refers, when it is a substantive, to Satan, the prince of darkness (*e.g.* 8:44; 13:2; *cf.* 13:27). Indeed the Greek should probably not be rendered *one of you is a devil* but ‘one of you is the devil’. The meaning is clear from 13:2, clearer yet from Mark 8:33 par., where Jesus addresses Peter as ‘Satan’. The supreme adversary (Heb. *śāṭān*) of God so operates behind failing human beings that his malice becomes theirs. Jesus can discern the source, and labels it appropriately.

Carson, D. A. (1991). *The Gospel according to John* (p. 304). Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, MI: Inter-Varsity Press; W.B. Eerdmans.

It is a fact that Jesus chose to make them friends, He chose to change the relationship of enmity, hostility, and hatred, to Love, affection, and friendship.

But there **is also** a clear choice for service here. Jesus chooses his friends

and

Jesus chooses his servants.

Luke 6:12–13 (NKJV)

¹² Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night

in prayer to God. ¹³ And when it was day, He called His disciples to *Himself*; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles:

John 6:70 (NKJV)

⁷⁰ Jesus answered them, “Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?”

John 15:19 (NKJV)

¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

Ephesians 4:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit,

There is a choice here and then there is an appointment.

They are not synonymous, but are inseparable.

They are different but related.

One depends on the other.

The appointment depends on the Choice.

God chose them to be friends, He elected them before the foundation of the world.

And God chose them, to be apostles

Then He appoints them to a task, service, ministry.

16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit,

appointed

tithémi: to place, lay, set

Original Word: τίθημι

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: tithémi

Phonetic Spelling: (tith'-ay-mee)

Definition: to place, lay, set

Usage: I put, place, lay, set, fix, establish.

to appoint (duty) v. — to assign a duty, responsibility or obligation to someone.

Acts 20:28 (NKJV)

²⁸ Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit **has made** you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

1 Timothy 1:12 (NKJV)

¹² And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, **putting** *me* into the ministry,

Acts 13:46–47 (NKJV)

⁴⁶ Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, “It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles. ⁴⁷ For so the Lord has commanded us:

‘I **have set** you as a light to the Gentiles,
That you should be for salvation to the ends of the earth.’”

2 Timothy 1:8–11 (NKJV)

⁸ Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, ⁹ who 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 given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, ¹⁰ but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, *who* has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹ to which I was **appointed** a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.

John 15:13 (NKJV)

¹³ Greater love has no one than this, than **to lay down** (set aside) one's life for his friends.

16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit,

iva - hina clause introduces us to a purpose clause.

Jesus is telling us that there is a reason for being chosen and appointed.

The Christian life is not a spectator sport; Jesus did not choose believers to stand idly by while the world continues on its way to hell. On the contrary, His

explicit command is, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (Matt. 28:19–20; cf. Luke 14:23)

MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (2008). *John 12–21* (p. 163). Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers.

that you should go and bear fruit,

This fact, and the emphasis on *going* and bearing fruit, have suggested to many commentators, probably rightly, that the fruit primarily in view in this verse is the fruit that emerges from mission, from specific ministry to which the disciples have been sent. The fruit, in short, is new converts. One purpose of election, then, is that the disciples who have been so blessed with revelation and understanding, should win others to the faith — *fruit that will last*

Carson, D. A. (1991). *The Gospel according to John* (p. 523). Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, MI: Inter-Varsity Press; W.B. Eerdmans

It is absolutely crucial whenever one discusses the subject of election to realize that election is not about privilege but purpose

Borchert, G. L. (2002). *John 12–21* (Vol. 25B, p. 150). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

As early as the summons of Abram to leave his home and receive the blessing of God, to receive a new

name and become a great nation, that blessing was accompanied by a divine purpose—to be a blessing to all the people of the earth (Gen 12:2–3). Similarly, the promise of the presence of Jesus in the conclusion of Matthew is intimately united with the command/ commission to go and disciple the world (Matt 28:18–20). Likewise, in the Johannine imparting of the Spirit by Jesus there is a purposeful task assigned to the disciples—namely, communicating the forgiveness of sins (John 20:22–23). So here also the “choosing” and “appointing” of the disciples is not merely for some privilege of being selected to an elite group but for the specific purpose of bearing fruit.

Borchert, G. L. (2002). [John 12–21](#) (Vol. 25B, pp. 150–151). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

fruit

John 4:34–36 (NKJV)

³⁴ Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. ³⁵ Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and *then* comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! ³⁶ And he who reaps receives wages, **and gathers fruit for eternal life**, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together.

What is true is that God has predestined a plan that includes the choice of some to eternal life, they are the Elect of God, as we saw last week.

This plan is by God's own Sovereign Choice to have mercy on whoever He will and to have compassion on whomever he will.

That fact that he chose any to save is an amazing act of grace, completely underserved by the sinner.

This plan includes an exact number of the human race that have been determined by God to save.

This number is fixed, and predestined by God.

Revelation 17:8 (NKJV)

⁸ "...And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world,..."

Acts 13:48 (NKJV)

⁴⁸ Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.

A couple of notes about this choice

1. He chose you before you were born
2. He chose you sovereignly, according to His will,

3. He chose you not based on your works or faith.

4. He chose you for His purpose and Pleasure.

5. He chose a large number to be saved.

Revelation 7:9–10 (NKJV)

⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

6. Those He chose will, absolutely be saved.

NONE will be lost.

Romans 8:30 (NKJV)

³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

John 6:37 (NKJV)

³⁷ **All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.**

John 6:39 (NKJV)

³⁹ This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day.

I say all this hopefully to spark a thought in your mind.

A common objection to the doctrine of sovereign Election is,

If God has already chosen who will be saved and there is no changing the number, and it is absolute that they will be saved...then why evangelize?

1. The first and obvious answer to this is:

God told you to. You are commanded to.

Matthew 28:19–20 (NKJV)

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen.

Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

But the question remains, IF it is already planned and it will happen, why does he need me.

Simply put.

God has ordained the Beginning and the End. And He as ordained the means to get there.

He has ordained that you come to church today. And he has ordained the means to make that happen.

i.e. car, fuel, oil, fossils, flood.

He ordains that people exist, and he creates the means for that to occur.

i.e. Husband and wife, fertilization, conception, birth etc.

He ordains that churches be taught the word of God and he ordains the means for that to occur.

The selection fo apostles, prophets and evangelist and Pastor/teachers.

He Moves on men to write down the scriptures and providentially protects them thru the centuries to give us an accurate copy of the Bible.

He also ordains a select number of peoples, to be saved,

And he ordains the means to get them saved.

i.e. gospel, evangelism, preachers, preaching, great awakenings, reformation, passion and pleas, commands and claims of Christ.

to call people to the Gospel.

1 Corinthians 3:5–7 (NKJV)

⁵ Who then is Paul, and who *is* Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? ⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. ⁷ So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.

2 Timothy 2:8–11 (NKJV)

⁸ Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel, ⁹ for which I suffer trouble as an evildoer, *even* to the point of chains; but the word of God is not chained. ¹⁰ Therefore I endure all things for the

sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

¹¹ This is a faithful saying:

For if we died with *Him*,
We shall also live with *Him*.

Acts 18:5–6 (NKJV)

⁵ When Silas and Timothy had come from Macedonia, Paul was compelled by the Spirit, and testified to the Jews *that* Jesus *is* the Christ. ⁶ But when they opposed him and blasphemed, he shook *his* garments and said to them, “Your blood *be* upon your *own* heads; I *am* clean. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.”

⁸ Then Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his household. And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were baptized.

⁹ Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, “**Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent; ¹⁰ for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city.**”

¹¹ And he continued *there* a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

John 10:14–16 (NKJV)

¹⁴ I am the good shepherd; and I know My *sheep*, and am known by My own. ¹⁵ As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. ¹⁶ And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock *and* one shepherd.

John 10:26–28 (NKJV)

²⁶ But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. ²⁷ My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

²⁸ And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

Romans 9:15–18 (NKJV)

¹⁵ For He says to Moses, “*I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.*”

¹⁶ So then *it is* not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy. ¹⁷ For the Scripture says to the Pharaoh, “*For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in*

all the earth.”¹⁸ Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens.

Romans 11:5–7 (NKJV)

⁵ Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace. ⁶ And if by grace, then *it is* no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. But if *it is* of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work.

⁷ What then? Israel has not obtained what it seeks; but the elect have obtained it, and the rest were blinded.

Romans 10:11–18 (NKJV)

¹¹ For the Scripture says, “*Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.*”¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. ¹³ For “*whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.*”

¹⁴ How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:

*“How beautiful are the feet of those who preach
the gospel of peace,
Who bring glad tidings of good things!”*

¹⁶ But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our report?”

¹⁷ So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

¹⁸ But I say, have they not heard? Yes indeed:

*“Their sound has gone out to all the earth,
And their words to the ends of the world.”*

Romans 9:1–3 (NKJV)

9 I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, ² that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh,

Romans 10:1 (NKJV)

10 Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved.

Listen,

Every desire for the lost to be saved,

Every passion a person has to see someone repent.

Every prayer earnestly offered to God for the salvation of a soul.

Every sermon offered to the church and world.
Every missionary sent to a foreign land to plant a church.

Every Bible published in the language of a people in need.

Every debate offered in honor to God for the Truth of God's Word.

Every good work done in motivation for the Glory of God.

Every track left at dinner table for a waitress to read.

Every plea with a mother to save her baby and not to abort, and the believe the Gospel.

Every command to repent and believe.

Every preacher who faithfully proclaims the truth of scripture.

Every man woman or child willing to be persecuted for the cause of Christ.

All of these are the means God has chose to reach the world with the Gospel and to save the elect.

YOUR IT

There are a few things that are very beneficial to someone who Believe in the doctrine of Election, and that we are the means to bring a definite number of sinners to Christ in Salvation.

1. It keeps our message faithful
2. It keeps our methods simple
3. It keeps our dependence upward
4. It keeps our praise focused

1. It keeps our message faithful

1 Corinthians 2:2 (NKJV)

² For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

Romans 1:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

2. It keeps our methods simple

1 Corinthians 2:1 (NKJV)

2 And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God.

⁴ And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom,....,

3. It keeps our dependence upward

1 Corinthians 2:3 (NKJV)

³ I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling.

4. It keeps our praise focused

1 Corinthians 2:4–5 (NKJV)

⁴ And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

When we understand that God has a plan, that he has a definite people that he has chose for himself and that you are the means he chose to accomplish this plan

It will keep you from falling prey to the gimmicks of the day. The methods and means of men. The plotting and planning to have unregenerate baptized members of a church. It will keep you from vacillating in the ever shifting waves of culture.

You will stop watering down your message,

You will stop manipulating the minds of men.

You will stop worrying if your church is culturally relevant. You won't mind if the name of your church has the word "church" in it. You won't worry if you have the right color light bulb to light the stage.

The message with be central

The Truth will be uncompromised.

The Method will be Biblical

J.I. Packer, Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God. He has three emphases. He has three helps

for the Christian if he believes in the sovereignty of God and why it helps him in evangelism. Those three helps are: you will be bold, you will be patient, and you will be prayerful. Bold. Patient. Prayerful.

Its important that we have right theology, and I believe it important that we believe Reformed Soteriology, The Doctrine of Election,

The Five Points of Calvinism, The Doctrines of Grace.

To many Reformed folk are content with plucking petals off the Tulip while reciting, He chose me, He chose me not.

Instead

But, we need to stop playing with the petals on the Tulip and get busy about sharing the gospel with the sinners, God has put in our path.

Charles Spurgeon preached,

“ Oh, my brothers and sisters in Christ, if sinners will be damned, at least let them leap to hell over our bodies; and if they will perish, let them perish with our arms about their knees, imploring them to stay, an not madly destroy themselves.”

1. We Are Elect to Evangelize

2. We Are Elect to Endure

John 15:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, **and that your fruit should remain**, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

remain P.A. Sub

menó: to stay, abide, remain

Original Word: μένω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: menó

Phonetic Spelling: (men'-o)

Definition: to stay, abide, remain

Usage: I remain, abide, stay, wait; with acc: I wait for, await.

With these references to fruit and to its enduring quality (the verb is again *menō*, ‘to remain’), it becomes clear that these closing allusions to the vine imagery ensure that, however comprehensive the nature of the fruit that Christians bear, the focus on evangelism and mission is truly central

Carson, D. A. (1991). *The Gospel according to John* (p. 523). Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, MI: Inter-Varsity Press; W.B. Eerdmans.

So this is talking about the eternal nature of the fruit.

This fruit remains.

There is no bad fruit in the family of God.

There is no such thing as an elect, chosen of God that abandons the Faith.

The Fruit that God creates remains.

⁶ You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and **that your fruit should remain**, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

This includes the twin truths of

Perseverance

and

Preservation

The Elect will Persevere and the Elect will be Preserved.

The Perseverance — enabled by God

Matthew 24:12–13 (NKJV)

¹² And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³ But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

Matthew 10:22 (NKJV)

²² And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved.

Matthew 13:18–23 (NKJV)

¹⁸ “Therefore hear the parable of the sower:
¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand *it*, then the wicked *one* comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. ²⁰ But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹ yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles. ²² Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. ²³ But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands *it*, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.”

Romans 2:7 (NKJV)

⁷ eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality;

Colossians 1:21–23 (NKJV)

²¹ And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled ²² in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—²³ if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Perseverance — enabled by God

Preservation— Accomplished by God

Matthew 24:30–31 (NKJV)

³⁰ Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

³¹ And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will **gather together His elect** from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Philippians 1:6 (NKJV)

⁶ being confident of this very thing, that **He who has begun a good work in you will complete it** until the day of Jesus Christ;

John 10:27–30 (NKJV)

²⁷ My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. ²⁸ And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of My Father's hand. ³⁰ I and My Father are one.”

1 Peter 1:3–5 (NKJV)

³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Romans 8:28–39 (NKJV)

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. ³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? ³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies. ³⁴ Who *is* he who condemns? *It is* Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

*“For Your sake we are killed all day long;
We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.”*

³⁷ Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

