Thanksgiving for a Saved People 2 Thessalonians 2:13–14

2 Thessalonians 2:13–14 (NKJV)

¹³ But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, ¹⁴ to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Introduction

The Bible sets our salvation in the context of a great contrast.

From death to Life

From darkness to life

From sin to righteousness

From disobedience to obedience

From Rebellion to Submission

From Hate to Love

From Hell to Heaven

From Evil to Holiness

From a Hater of God to a lover of God From a Blasphemer to a heart filled with praise. It is the great contrast of Romans 5 Romans 5:6–10 (NKJV)

⁶ For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. ¹⁰ For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Our passage is in the context of a great contrast. One of eternal importance and significance...

2 Thessalonians 2:9–14 (NKJV)

⁹ The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹ And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie,

¹² that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

¹³ But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, ¹⁴ to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is God who makes the difference in these two groups. He condemns one and saves another.

One is granted deception for their hatred of the truth with the other is given salvation for there love of the truth.

The Amazing nature of Salvation can scarcely be understood and appreciated unless you understand the blackness and evil from which you have been snatched.

The Flames of Hell where licking at your feet and God pulled you away from your desired destiny.

In our passage we are confronted with another golden change. A Progress of Redemption. Where God set in motion a marvelous plan that saved us from our wretched condition and future.

Lesson:

¹³ But we **are bound** to **give thanks** to God always for you,

are bound opheiló: P.A.I

to owe

Original Word: ὀΦείλω
Part of Speech: Verb
Transliteration: opheiló
Phonetic Spelling: (of-i'-lo)

3784 opheílō (a primitive verb, NAS dictionary) – to owe, be

indebted, i.e. obliged to rectify a debt ("ought").

3784 /opheílō ("owe") refers to being morally obligated (or legally required) to meet an obligation, i.e. to pay off a legitimate debt.

[3784 (opheílō) "originally belonged to the legal sphere; it expressed initially one's legal and economic, and then later one's moral, duties and responsibilities to the gods and to men, or to their sacrosanct regulations. . . . opheílō expresses human and ethical responsibility in the NT" (DNTT, 2, 662.663).]

give thanks eucharisteó: P.A.I

to be thankful

Original Word: εὐχαριστέω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: eucharisteó

Phonetic Spelling: (yoo-khar-is-teh'-o)

pass. 3 sing: is received with thanks.

2168 euxaristéō (from 2095 /eú, "good" and 5485/xaris, "grace") – properly, acknowledging that "God's grace works well," i.e. for our eternal gain and His glory; to give thanks – literally, "thankful for God's good grace."

always

pantote: at all times
Original Word: Πάντοτε
Part of Speech: Adverb
Transliteration: pantote

Phonetic Spelling: (pan'-tot-eh)

Definition: at all times

Usage: always, at all times, ever.

The Repetitive nature of the Presence tense verbs plus that addition of the word "Always" speaks of the intensity and consuming nature of the thankfulness

Paul was a very thankful man. A man full of the Spirit of God and fully aware that all he is and all that he has and all the success he has seen in ministry is completely due to the power of God.

There are many verses that express the thankful attitude of Paul

2 Thessalonians 1:3 (NKJV)

³ We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other,

Romans 1:8 (NKJV)

⁸ First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.

Romans 6:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ But God be thanked that *though* you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.

But He also commanded the Thessalonians and us to always in everything give thanks.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

This means, that there is no room left in the believers life for complaining, griping or grumblings, If you understand that all things are ordained in the believers life by the one who gave his life for you, then you are willing to acknowledge that it is perfect plan from a perfect God who loves you with perfect love.

Paul taught that a thankful heart was a fruit of being filled with the Spirit Ephesians 5:18–20 (NKJV)

¹⁸ And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Thankfulness is a means of praise too

Hebrews 13:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of *our* lips, giving thanks to His name.

Paul taught that, thankfulness was a way of combating and defeating anxiety and worry.

Philippians 4:6 (NKJV)

⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

Paul taught that thankfulness should saturate our lives

Colossians 3:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ And whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

He also, recognized with Job, that all things come good and bad come from the Sovereign hand of a God that loves us.

Job 1:21 (NKJV)

²¹ And he said:

"Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord."

- 1 Corinthians 4:7 (NKJV)
- ⁷ For who makes you differ *from another?* And what do you have that you did not receive? Now if you did indeed receive *it,* why do you boast as if you had not received *it?*

This means, that there is no room left in the believers life for complaining, griping or grumblings,

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If you understand that all things are ordained in the believers life by the one who gave his life for you, then you are willing to acknowledge that it is perfect plan from a perfect God who loves you with perfect love.

Philippians 2:14-15 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Do all things without complaining and disputing, ¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

Unthankful, complaining attitudes are a reflection of the the fallen heart. In fact, this is the reason that Paul points this out at there very being of Romans 1.

Men who abandon belief in God have no one to be thankful too. You are just a chance collision of meaningless matter that has no purpose.

Romans 1:21 (NKJV)

²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

But Paul, believed in God and Christ and understood that all things came from Him. so He begins with thankfulness and then begins to express the things that He is thankful for with the Thessalonians.

It is important to note at the point the reason why Paul is bringing this up.

Context.

His primary reason for these words are in the context of the second coming and the persecution they were currently experiencing. And the point was instruction, but the primary motivation for the teaching was comfort.

Paul knew that they needed the truth to bring comfort to there troubled hearts.

In the first letter he taught of the return of Christ regarding the ones that had already fallen asleep or died

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 (NKJV)

¹³ But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

Then in chapter 5 he gives comfort that they will escape the wrath of God in the Day of the Lord

- 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11 (NKJV)
- *5* But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. ² For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. ³ For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. ⁴ But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. ⁵ You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor

of darkness. ⁶ Therefore let us not sleep, as others *do*, but let us watch and be sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. ⁸ But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and *as* a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹ For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.

11 Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

Then in 2 Thess chapter one, he gives comfort that Jesus will return and bring vengeance on those that have persecuted them and killed there loved ones.

and that they will be rescued and relieved and glorified with Christ.

2 Thessalonians 1:6–10 (NKJV)

⁶ since *it is* a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, ⁷ and to *give* you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, ⁸ in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not

know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, ¹⁰ when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.

Then he brings comfort with clarification and correction of false teaching regarding the Coming of Christ, that the day of the Lord had come.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-3 (NKJV)

2 Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, ² not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. ³ Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition,

2 Thessalonians 2:16–17 (NKJV)

¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given *us* everlasting consolation and good hope by grace,

17 comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work.

So Pauls words are not merely instructional or didactic but also Comfort. He wants them to rest in God and have the anxiety of their hearts removed.

NOTE, 'It is the accurate interpretation of the Truth of God's Word by application of by the Spirit that brings comfort.

The world has no comfort but only confusion
The world does not have the truth, only tragedy
The world does not give hope only hopelessness.
If you want comfort and relief from your anxieties,
you have to rest in God and the truth of His Word.
He is the only truth, the only true comforter.

This desire to bring Comfort to a persecuted and sometimes confused group of believers brings Him to verse 13......

He gives them some of the most profound, far reaching eternal truths ever found in the Bible I admit to you, that it is very difficult for me to not expound on each part of these verses for weeks.

I. We are Loved

¹³ But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, <u>brethren beloved by the Lord</u>,

ήγαπημένοι. Perf. P. Part.

agapaó: to love

Original Word: ἀγαπάω

Part of Speech: Verb Transliteration: agapaó

Phonetic Spelling: (ag-ap-ah'-o)

Definition: to love

Jeremiah 31:3 (NKJV)

The Lord has appeared of old to me, saying: "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.

Daniel 9:23 (NKJV)

²³ At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come to tell *you*, for you *are* greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision:

Daniel 10:19 (NKJV)

¹⁹ And he said, "O man greatly beloved, fear not! Peace *be* to you; be strong, yes, be strong!"

So when he spoke to me I was strengthened, and said, "Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me."

Romans 1:7 (NKJV)

⁷ To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called *to be* saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Colossians 3:12 (NKJV)

¹² Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;

1 John 4:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

1 John 4:19 (NKJV)

¹⁹ We love Him because He first loved us.

Romans 5:8 (NKJV)

⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

ἠγαπημένοι. Perf. P. Part.

You always were "loved by the Lord." He did not begin to love you when you first repented and turned to Him. He saw you in the glass of His eternal purpose, and He loved you then. That love He proved many centuries before you knew anything about it, for His beloved Son, Jesus Christ your Lord and Savior, had redeemed you before you were born Spurgeon, C. (2014). Spurgeon Commentary: 2 Thessalonians (E. Ritzema, Ed.; p. 34). Lexham Press.

This is that eternal predestinating love. The love of Foreknowledge.

Romans 8:29 (NKJV)

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.

Deuteronomy 7:7–8 (NKJV)

⁷The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; ⁸ but because the Lord loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand,

and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

A.W. Pink wrote regarding the Love of God

- 1. The love of God is uninfluenced. By this we mean, there was nothing whatever in the objects of His love to call it into exercise, nothing in the creature to attract or prompt it. The love which one creature has for another is because of something in them; but the love of God is free, spontaneous, uncaused.
- 2. It is eternal. This of necessity. God Himself is eternal, and God is love; therefore, as God Himself had no beginning, His love had none. Granted that such a concept far transcends the grasp of our feeble minds, nevertheless, where we cannot comprehend, we can bow in adoring worship.

 3. It is sovereign. This also is self-evident. God Himself is sovereign, under obligations to none, a law unto Himself, acting always according to His own imperial pleasure. Since God be sovereign, and since He be love, it necessarily follows that His love is sovereign. Because God is God, He does as He pleases; because God is love, He loves whom He pleases.

- 3. It is sovereign. This also is self-evident. God Himself is sovereign, under obligations to none, a law unto Himself, acting always according to His own imperial pleasure. Since God be sovereign, and since He be love, it necessarily follows that His love is sovereign. Because God is God, He does as He pleases; because God is love, He loves whom He pleases. No tongue can fully express the infinitude of God's love, or any mind comprehend it: it "passeth knowledge" Eph. 3:19). The most extensive ideas that a finite mind can frame about Divine love, are infinitely below its true nature. 5. It is immutable. As with God Himself there is "no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (James 1:17), so His love knows neither change or diminution
- 6. It is holy. God's love is not regulated by caprice passion, or sentiment, but by principle. God's love is no mere amiable weakness, or effeminate softness. God will not wink at sin, even in His own people. His love is pure, unmixed with any maudlin sentimentality.
- 7. It is gracious. The love and favor of God are inseparable. Christ died not in order to make God love us, but because He did love His people, Calvary is the supreme demonstration of Divine

love. Whenever you are tempted to doubt the love of God, Christian reader, go back to Calvary.

This Love that is eternal, purposeful and selective is the fountain head out of which all there other blessing come.

The Love of God for you is what moved God to choose to save you.

The Eternal Sovereign Immutable infinite, Holy and Gracious Love of God Moved the All powerful God, the creator and sustainer of all things to send His Son to take on him all the wrath that you deserved.

So Paul is thankful that the Love of God for you moved him to Choose you/0.

I. We are Loved

II. We are Chosen

³ But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, <u>because God from the beginning chose you for salvation</u>

The author signals this contrast between the two groups in v. 13, which begins with the adversative "but" *(de)*. In fact, the apostle contrasts the action of God toward the two (v. 11, God sent them "powerful"

delusion"; v. 13, *God chose you*), the means used to bring about his purposes (v. 11, "powerful delusion"; v. 14, "through our gospel"), and the ultimate destiny of both (v. 12, "all will be condemned"; v. 13, *to be saved*).

Green, G. L. (2002). *The letters to the Thessalonians* (p. 325). W.B. Eerdmans Pub.; Apollos.

____Paul declares that this election was *from the beginning (ap' archēs)*, although various principal Greek manuscripts of the letter read "as first-fruits" (*aparchēn*, a reading followed in the *NRSV*). Although the evidence is strong in favor of *from the beginning*,

Green, G. L. (2002). *The letters to the Thessalonians* (p. 326). W.B. Eerdmans Pub.; Apollos.

chose haireó: A.M. I

to take, choose

Original Word: αἱρέω
Part of Speech: Verb
Transliteration: haireó

Phonetic Spelling: (hahee-reh'-om-ahee)

Definition: to take, choose

138 hairéomai (a primitive verb, always in the Greek middle voice)

- properly, lay hold of by a personal choice.

[The Greek middle voice emphasizes the self-interest of the one preferring (deciding) to grasp or take.]

Ephesians 1:4 (NKJV)

⁴ just as **He chose us** in Him before the foundation of the world,

Col. 3:12

¹² Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;

1 Thessalonians 1:4 (NKJV)

⁴ knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.

2 Timothy 2:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Therefore I endure all things <u>for the sake of the</u> <u>elect</u>, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

Titus 1:1–2 (NKJV)

1 Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of **God's elect** ... ² in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,

James 2:5 (NKJV)

- 5... Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?
- 1 Peter 1:2 (NKJV)
- ² <u>elect according to the foreknowledge of God</u> the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:
- 1 Peter 2:9–10 (NKJV)
- ⁹ But **you** *are* **a chosen generation**, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ¹⁰ who once *were* not a people but *are* now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.
- 2 Timothy 1:9 (NKJV)
- ⁹ who has <u>saved us and called us with a holy</u> <u>calling</u>, not according to our works, but <u>according</u> <u>to His own purpose and grace</u> which was given to us in Christ Jesus <u>before time began</u>,

Romans 9:11-13 (NKJV)

11 (for *the children* not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the **purpose of God according to election** might stand, not of works but of Him who calls), 12 it was said to her, "The older shall serve the younger." 13 As it is written, "Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated."

Romans 8:29-30 (NKJV)

²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also <u>predestined</u> to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. ³⁰ Moreover whom He <u>predestined</u>, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Ephesians 1:5 (NKJV)

⁵ having <u>predestined</u> us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

John 6:37 (NKJV)

³⁷ "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me,..." 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,..."
John 17:2 (NKJV)

²"...You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as <u>You have</u> <u>given Him."</u>

John 17:6 (NKJV)

⁶ "I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me,..."

John 17:9 (NKJV)

⁹ "I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom **You have given Me**, for they are Yours."

John 17:11 (NKJV)

11 ... "Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me,..."

John 10:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ And <u>other sheep I have</u> which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and <u>they will hear My</u> <u>voice</u>; and <u>there will be one flock</u> and one shepherd.

Acts 13:48 (NKJV)

26 of 42

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

Revelation 17:8 (NKJV)

⁸ The beast that you saw...will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. 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 22:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Then he (Ananias) said (to Saul/ Paul), 'The **God** of our fathers **has chosen you** that you should know His will, and see the Just One, and hear the voice of His mouth.

It is not debatable at all that God is the one making the choice. The choice was made by God before the foundation of the world, long before you every existed. You were not around to give any input or voice your opinion or to persuade God to choose you.

A couple of notes about this choice

1. He chose you before you were born

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- 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 <u>His purpose</u> and <u>Pleasure</u>.

1. He chose you **BEFORE** you were born

Ephesians 1:4 (NKJV)

⁴ just as He chose us in Him **before the foundation of the world**,

2 Thessalonians 2:13 (NKJV)

13 "... God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,"

2. He chose you **sovereignly**, according to **His** will,

Ephesians 1:5 (NKJV)

⁵ having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Romans 9:15-16 (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.

3. He chose you **NOT** based on your works or faith.

Not Works

Romans 9:11 (NKJV)

11 (for the children not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls),

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NKJV)

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Election in scripture is always, always for salvation or unto Salvation or with salvation in view. The Bible does not teach that God has to elect someone to be lost. They can take care of that themselves in Adam. All men are in Adam and are born condemned and are born lost.

Election is the considering of men in their lost condition and choosing to save some of them from

their willful rebelling and willful hatred and sinning against God.

13 But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation

for salvation

eis: to or into (indicating the point reached or entered, of place, time, fig. purpose, result)

Original Word: εἰς

Part of Speech: Preposition

Transliteration: eis

Phonetic Spelling: (ice)

Definition: to or into (indicating the point reached or entered, of

place, time, purpose, result)

Usage: into, in, unto, to, upon, towards, for, among.

1519 eis (a preposition) – properly, into (unto) – literally, "motion into which" implying penetration ("unto," "union") to a particular purpose or result.

But being chose for salvation is only the start. This is not automatic. There is a means that God has chosen to take the lost sinner that he has chosen and get them saved.

When those whom God has chosen from the beginning are born... they are born lost. Enemies of God and hating the light and not wanting to come to the light. They are truth haters and evil lovers. They despise Christ and love their sin.

So even the elect need to be saved.

And this is how God has chosen to do this.

- I. We are Loved
- II. We are Chosen

III. We are Set Apart

¹³ But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,

sanctification. by the Spirit

hagiasmos: consecration, sanctification

Original Word: ἁγιασμός, οῦ, ὁ

Part of Speech: Noun, Masculine

Transliteration: hagiasmos

Phonetic Spelling: (hag-ee-as-mos')

Cognate: 38 hagiasmós (a masculine noun derived

from 40 /hágios, "holy") - sanctification (the process

of advancing in holiness); use of the believer being progressively transformed by the Lord into His likeness (similarity of nature). See 40 /hagios ("holy").

1 Peter 1:2 (NKJV)

² elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:

1 Corinthians 6:9–11 (NKJV)

⁹ Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, ¹⁰ nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹ And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

There are 2 things perhaps that Paul has in mind here.

1. The beginning setting apart by the Holy Spirit in Regeneration
John 3:6–8 (NKJV)

⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not marvel that I said

to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

2. The on going work of the Spirit of God in sanctifying or making you holy.

Acts 15:8-9 (NKJV)

⁸ So God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as *He did* to us, ⁹ and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Galatians 5:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Ezekiel 11:19-20 (NKJV)

¹⁹ Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, ²⁰ that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do

them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God.

this salvation comes

through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,

_____Romans 10:17 (NKJV)

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

James 1:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

1 Peter 1:22-23 (NKJV)

²² Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, ²³ having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

1 Corinthians 1:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Acts 13:44-49 (NKJV)

⁴⁴ On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God. ⁴⁵ But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy; and contradicting and blaspheming, they opposed the things spoken by Paul. 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 '"

- 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.
- ⁴⁹ And the word of the Lord was being spread throughout all the region.
 - I. We are Loved
 - II. We are Chosen
 - III. We are Set Apart

IV. We are Called

¹³ But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, ¹⁴ to which He called you by our gospel,

called kaleó: A.A. I. to call

Original Word: Καλέω
Part of Speech: Verb
Transliteration: kaleó

Phonetic Spelling: (kal-eh'-o)

Definition: to call

Usage: (a) I call, summon, invite, (b) I call, name.

by our gospel,

dia: through, on account of, because of

Original Word: διά

Part of Speech: Preposition

Transliteration: dia

Phonetic Spelling: (dee-ah')

Definition: through, on account of, because of

Usage: (a) gen: through, throughout, by the instrumentality of, (b)

acc: through, on account of, by reason of, for the sake of,

because of

This is the the divine call. The effectual call. The inward call.

Not the outward call of the gospel.

This is the irresistible call.

Romans 8:28-31 (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.⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

1 Thessalonians 2:12 (NKJV)

¹² that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

1 Peter 5:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle *you*.

We are Loved

- II. We are Chosen
- III. We are Set Apart
- IV. We are Called

V. We are Glorified

¹³ But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, ¹⁴ to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

for eis: to or into (indicating the point reached or entered, of place, time, fig. purpose, result)

Original Word: εἰς

Part of Speech: Preposition

Transliteration: eis

Phonetic Spelling: (ice)

Definition: to or into (indicating the point reached or entered, of

place, time, purpose, result)

Usage: into, in, unto, to, upon, towards, for, among.

<u>obtaining</u> peripoiésis: preservation, acquisition **Original Word:** περιποίησις, εως, ἡ Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: peripoiésis

Phonetic Spelling: (per-ee-poy'-ay-sis)

Definition: preservation, acquisition

Usage: acquiring, obtaining, possessing, possession, ownership.

4047 peripoíēsis (from 4012 /perí, "all-around" and 4160 /poiéō, "make") — properly, make one's own; completely obtain, i.e. as a full possession (to real advantage, LS) — literally, "for abundant (all-around) gain."

[4047 (peripoíēsis) originally meant, " 'a making to remain over and above'; hence, 'preservation; preservation for one's self; acquisition; the thing acquired, or a possession' " (WS, 847); that is, "acquiring, obtaining, possessing, ownership" (Souter).]

acquisition (permanent) n. — the act of gaining possession of something; especially in a secure or permanent manner.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:9 (NKJV)
- ⁹ For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Ephesians 1:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

What is that glory.....

Is it Heaven

Is it streets of gold

Is is no pain, no sorrow, no death.

Oh brothers and sisters do not think so shallow of the future glory. Christ did not set his love on you long ago before all things were created and in time come and die for you so that you could have a pain free future.

He did not take the full blow of the wrath of so you could just enjoy to New Heavens and the New Earth.

He did not forgive all of your sins and trespasses so you could just walk on the streets of gold or live in the Fathers house.

Oh no, it is much much bigger and better than that. It is is all about being conformed to His image, Being made like him.

Romans 8:29 (NKJV)

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.

1 John 3:2 (NKJV)

² Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

1 Corinthians 15:42–49 (NKJV)

⁴² So also *is* the resurrection of the dead. *The body* is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ And so it is written, *"The first man Adam became a living being."* The last Adam *became* a life-giving spirit.

⁴⁶ However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man *was* of the earth, *made* of dust; the second Man *is* the Lord from heaven. ⁴⁸ As *was* the *man* of dust, so also *are* those *who are made* of dust; and as *is* the heavenly *Man*, so also *are* those *who are* heavenly. ⁴⁹ And as

we have borne the image of the *man* of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly *Man*.

Philippians 3:20–21 (NKJV)

²⁰ For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.