

The Unbelief of the Jews Announced and the Sovereign Plan of God Affirmed Pt.2 John 6:30-40

John 6:30–40 (NKJV)

³⁰ Therefore they said to Him, “What sign will You perform then, that we may see it and believe You? What work will You do? ³¹ Our fathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written, *‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’*”

³² Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

³⁴ Then they said to Him, “Lord, give us this bread always.”

³⁵ And Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. ³⁶ But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe. 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. ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. 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. ⁴⁰ And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

Introduction:

Tim Keller’s Tim Keller’s Redeemer Presbyterian Church is wrought with compromise. A church that is part of the traditionally conservative PCA, problems range from its members converting to Catholicism to a low view of biblical authority—Keller is a theistic evolutionist.

In November of 2016, under the pastoral leadership of Keller, during the offertory portion of worship, Redeemer offers up an effeminate dance routine with three men, Ethan Fuller, Ghaleb Kayali, and Lars Nelson, prancing around on stage dressed in tight, white clothing and acting in such a manner that is, well, let’s say, less than appropriate for a Christian church

In “the” recent controversy, Tim Keller’s Redeemer Presbyterian Church came under heat “the” **an effeminate dance they preformed on stage**. Critics objected both because it seems to violate the Regulative Principle of Worship and because it appeared too feminine for men to be participating in. To defend this, Tim Keller took to Facebook. He posted,

“The Church needs artists because without art we cannot reach the world. The simple fact is that the imagination ‘gets you,’ even when your reason is completely against

the idea of God. 'Imagination communicates,' as Arthur Danto says, 'indefinable but inescapable truth.' Those who read a book or listen to music expose themselves to that inescapable truth. There is a sort of schizophrenia that occurs if you are listening to Bach and you hear the glory of God and yet your mind says there is no God and there is no meaning. You are committed to believing nothing means anything and yet the music comes in and takes you over with your imagination. When you listen to great music, you can't believe life is meaningless. Your heart knows what your mind is denying. We need Christian artists because we are never going to reach the world without great Christian art to go with great Christian talk."

Art can be a powerful tool. Hymns and songs have long been teachers of sound doctrine. Movies can teach and explain doctrine. Even visual art – paintings and sculptures – can serve a purpose. However, if all of these were to be removed, the Gospel would not be stopped in its place. This post implies otherwise, elevating man's art and showing a low view of the Gospel. The Gospel does not require the help of human art. If an atheist experiences this schizophrenia that Keller speaks of, he isn't instantly driven to God. He will continue in his sins. Only the Gospel has the power to save. He claims we are never going to reach the world with great Christian art, and yet the Bible never commands Christians to make great art and show it to all people, but instead to preach the Gospel.

While Keller arrogantly raises human art up, he also blasphemes the Gospel as insufficient without the aid of

human artwork. It is concerning that such a prominent figure would make such claims, but not surprising. Keller is one of the leading figures in the Social Gospel movement among New Calvinists. He has even made claims such as, “Jesus’ life, death and resurrection was an infinitely costly rescue operation to restore justice to the oppressed and marginalized.” (*Reason for God*, p. 224). So it is to no shock that someone who accepts such a trite, worldly gospel has such a low view of it that they claim it cannot reach people without the aid of art. If I were to adhere to the Social Gospel, I might think the same thing.

Ultimately, in Keller’s attempts to defend the display, he dug himself a deeper hole and made claims that are much worse than what was shown on that stage. It reveals how little he trusts in the power of God to advance the Gospel without humanity making it more appealing and palatable through the use of art. The Gospel is the power of God for salvation, not anything else.

[Contributed By Brandon C. Hines]

This underscores the problem that we are facing among many evangelicals today. A real lack of belief in the power of the Gospel to save. To many today believe that the gospel needs them to succeed. Or needs their ingenuity, good looks or cleverness, or persuasiveness

We have resorted to all kinds of approaches from the simple to the surreal, from basic to the bazaar, all in an attempt to prop up the gospel so it will appear worth of consideration by the sinner.

A wrong soteriology will naturally produce a wrong missiology.

A right soteriology will natural produce a right missiology

Our evangelism is directly related to how we understand the gospel

If the gospel just an offer of a provision of salvation to sink sinners who need a helping hand and motivation so that they can of there own power and will come to the Savior. Then your evangelism and your gospel preaching will reflect that

But if the Gospel is a Sovereignly accomplished Salvation effectually worked in dead sinners to bring them to spiritual life through the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit, granting saving faith and repentance freeing the will of man to come to Christ.... then your evangelism and the preaching of the gospel will reflect that.

Much of the misunderstanding of the Gospel finds its origins in a wrong view of man.

As we discussed last time, in detail, men are not just sick, there dead,

Men naturally want nothing to do with God and Christ

It is natural for man **not** to believe.

And as we noted last time, you can have the best preacher who ever walked on this planet, have him do miracles, signs and wonders, speak and preach with power and authority, and be complete full of the Holy Spirit without sin.... and man will listen, and see and reject and leave in unbelief.

This is the theme of John 6. Although there are many topics addressed...the the theme is Rejection in FuLL LIGHT.

The Jewish disciples (learners) Heard it all, saw it all, and experienced all yet walked away in unbelief.

John 6:66 (NKJV)

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

How do we explain this... If this can happen to Jesus, the greatest preacher, what hope do we have of anyone coming to Christ.

How can our lives be more perfect than Christ

How can our preaching be more effective than Jesus

How can we convince them of the truth with no miracles.

How can we even begin to think of raising the spiritual dead to life.

And in the face of complete and utter rejection by His own people, Jesus falls back on the solid Rock of the the Sovereign Plan of God in Salvation.

That He has a people that He has chosen for Salvation and that Plan cannot be stopped.

He says in response to

³⁶ But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe.

³⁷ All that the Father gives Me will come to Me,

In response to:

John 6:41–44 (NKJV)

⁴¹ The Jews then complained about Him, because He said, “I am the bread which came down from heaven.”

⁴² And they said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, ‘I have come down from heaven’?”

Jesus Says

⁴³ Jesus therefore answered and said to them, “Do not murmur among yourselves. ⁴⁴ No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

⁴⁵ *It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me.*

In response to

John 6:52 (NKJV)

⁵² The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, “How can this Man give us *His* flesh to eat?”

John 6:60–61 (NKJV)

⁶⁰ Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard *this*, said, “This is a hard saying; who can understand it?”

⁶¹ When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, He said to them, “Does this offend you?”

JESUS SAID

John 6:64–65 (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.”

6:37. Jesus then gave the ultimate explanation of their lack of faith: **the Father** works sovereignly in people’s lives. There is an election of God which is the Father’s gift to the Son. The Son has no concern that His work will be ineffective, for the Father will enable people to come to Jesus. Jesus has confidence

Blum, E. A. (1985). John. In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 2, p. 296). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

Jesus is saying that the purpose of God in Salvation is not stopped by your unbelief. Rather your unbelief affirms the reality of the plan of God. The fact that you don't believe proves the necessity of Gods Elective Effective call to salvation. In other words, IF God does not reach down and sovereignly save, no one will be saved. Also it teaches us that no matter how far away from God man may be, God can reach him and save him.

You see what many believe to be a great hinderance to evangelism (i.e. Sovereign Election) is actually the foundation of evangelism

If Sovereign Election were not true, no one would be saved.

This has been the motivation of many great missionaries and preachers of church history.

They new men where dead in sins, and bound slaves of darkness and had no hope or ability to come to Christ apart from a Sovereign elective purpose of God.

One author wrote

“Missionaries are to gain boldness through predestination. Hearts of men and people groups who were previously thought closed to the gospel have been seen to be opened to God’s grace in a way which can only be attributed to God. It is incredibly freeing to the missionary to know a person, culture or country is closed only if God wills it so. John Piper preached, “The great biblical doctrines of unconditional election, and predestination unto sonship, and irresistible grace in the preaching of Christ are mighty incentives to venture forth into a Muslim or Hindu or Buddhist or tribal culture where people seem hard as nails against the preaching of the gospel.” The hardest of hearts are cleaved wide open by God and provide assurance to the missionaries who labor in his name.

Far from being a deterrent to missions, God’s sovereign election and reprobation have historically been energizing to those who acknowledge the doctrine of predestination. Reformed and covenantal preachers and missionaries have been some of the most passionate in history.

John Calvin sent missionaries into France and as far off as Brazil. Calvin was not deterred from sending missionaries even after many were martyred. Calvin once said predestination was, “the eternal and unchangeable decree of God by which he foreordained, for his own glory and the display of his attributes of mercy and justice, a part of the human race, without any merit of their own, to eternal salvation, and another part, in just punishment of their sin, to eternal damnation.”

George Whitefield was at the center of the First Great Awakening. He was believed to have preached more than 18,000 sermons and traveled across the Atlantic more than a dozen times. Whitefield once said, “Man is nothing: he hath a free will to go to hell, but none to go to heaven, till God worketh in him to will and to do his good pleasure.”

Charles Spurgeon was arguably the most influential preacher of the 19th century. In his life he preached 3,600 sermons and published 49 volumes. Spurgeon said, “We must have the heathen converted; God has myriads of his elect among them, we must go and search for them till we find them.”

- John Elliott was sent to the native peoples in America in the 1600s.
- David Brainerd gave his life to evangelize the native peoples in America in the 1700s.
- Theodore Frelinghuysen, a Dutch Reformed pastor in New Jersey, was a fiery preacher who emphasized the need for conversion and served as a forerunner to the Great Awakening.

- William and Gilbert Tennent were Presbyterian pastors and prominent supporters of the Evangelical Awakening in the eighteenth century.
- Jonathan Edwards was the leading Calvinist theologian of the eighteenth century and was seen as the foremost defender and exporter of the revivals in the 1730s and 1740s.
- William Carey, an English Calvinist and missionary to India, is considered the father of the missions movement as we know it today.
- Other Calvinists followed Carey in the next decades to bring the gospel to foreign lands: Robert Moffat and David Livingstone to Africa, Robert Morrison to China, Adoniram Judson to Burma, and Henry Martin to India and Persia.
- Samuel Zwemer, who grew up in the Dutch Reformed Church, served in Bahrain, Arabia, and Egypt. He is often known as the Apostle to Islam.

D. James Kennedy founded Evangelism Explosion, which is believed to be the most used evangelism training in history. Kennedy once wrote, “God is determined to save His elect and He is perfectly succeeding in doing just that.”

The Perfect Match

Predestination is no hurdle to missions. Instead, truly understanding the biblical doctrine of predestination, is

motivation for missions. Without God being the prime mover and man being a subordinate instrument, no sinner could be saved.

Predestination And Missions, The Perfect Match

by Mike on June 10, 2016 in Musings

Review

I. The Unbelief of the Jews Announced

³⁵ And Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. ³⁶ But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe.

II. The Sovereign Plan of God Affirmed

A. The Plan Stated

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.

This is not a resignation to the Sovereign plan of God of Election. But rather a necessary affirmation of the Sovereign Elective plan of God.

Jesus is saying that although many have rejected, I am not discouraged, Gods plan will prevail. He will save, my death will not be in vain.

In this Great text we see.

1. Sovereign Election
2. Irresistible Grace
3. Perseverance of the Saints
4. Preservation of the Saints

1. Sovereign Election =====Unconditional Election

³⁷ All that the Father gives Me

The Text of His Giving

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.

John 17:1–2 (NKJV)

17 Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son,

that Your Son also may glorify You, ² as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him.

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, and they have kept Your word.

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 Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me,

John 17:24 (NKJV)

²⁴ “Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

John 10:28–29 (NKJV)

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.

1 Thessalonians 1:4 (NKJV)

⁴ knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.

Ephesians 1:4–5 (NKJV)

⁴ just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, ⁵ having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Romans 8:33 (NKJV)

³³ Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies.

Romans 11:5 (NKJV)

⁵ Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

2 Thessalonians 2:13 (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,

2 Timothy 2:10 (NKJV)

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.

Titus 1:1 (NKJV)

¹ Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness,

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:

Matthew 24:22 (NKJV)

²² And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

Matthew 24:31 (NKJV)

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.

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.

This has been the way God has always acted
Sovereignly
HE CHOOSES
HE CHOOSES ONE AND NOT THE OTHER.

Of His People

1 Peter 2:9 (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;

Of Nations i.e. Israel

Deuteronomy 7:6–8 (NKJV)

⁶ “For you *are* a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth. ⁷ The 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.

Of Angels

1 Timothy 5:21 (NKJV)

²¹ I charge *you* before God and the Lord Jesus Christ and the elect angels that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing with partiality.

Of the Savior

Isaiah 42:1 (NKJV)

“Behold! My Servant whom I uphold,
My Elect One *in whom* My soul delights!
I have put My Spirit upon Him;
He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles.

1 Peter 2:4 (NKJV)

⁴ Coming to Him *as to* a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God *and* precious,

1 Peter 2:6 (NKJV)

⁶ Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture,

“Behold, I lay in Zion

A chief cornerstone, elect, precious,
And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.”

The Time of His Giving - Before the Foundation of the World

³⁷ All that the Father gives Me will come to Me,

gives

V PAI3S Present Act Ind

Some have have taught that since the verb here is a Present Tense verb, that it refers to that the the Father gives those to Christ at the time of there coming. Or that this is a constant on going giving that occurs in response to the faith of the man.

Wesley got the Order wrong

Wesley's Explanatory Notes

All that the Father giveth me - All that feel themselves lost, and follow the drawings of the Father, he in a peculiar manner giveth to the Son: will come to me - By faith. And him that thus cometh to me, I will in nowise cast out - I will give him pardon, holiness, and heaven, if he endure to the end - to rejoice in his light.

John Gill wrote

Christ here expresses this act of his Father's in the present tense, "giveth", perhaps to signify the continuance and unchangeableness of it; yet he delivers it in the past tense, in John 6:39, "hath given"

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.

given

VRAI3S Perf Act Ind

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, and they have kept Your word.

VRAI3S Perf Act Ind

All other occurrences of the word give in relation to the the Fathers giving to the Son are Perf Tense

Past action with continuing results

We learn and understand how words are to be understood but looking with in immediate context, then broader context.

The Reformers called it “Analogia Scriptura” .

So When did the Father give these to the Son

Other passages help us to answer this.

Ephesians 1:4–5 (NKJV)

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

Matthew 25:34 (NKJV)

³⁴ Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you **from the foundation of the world:**

Revelation 17:8 (NKJV)

⁸ The beast that you saw was, and is not, and 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**, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

2 Thessalonians 2:13 (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,

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 1:5 (NKJV)

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

The Terms of His Giving — —-Unconditional

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.**

The Reason, or the Why that the Father gave sinners to the Son is not stated in this text. Nor is it stated in any of the other text in John 6 or John 10 or John 17

We only have a hint of the reason

1. First, It had nothing to do with you....

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),

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.

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.

2. Second it have everything to do with God the Fathers Sovereign Pleasure.

Ephesians 1:4–6 (NKJV)

⁴ just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, ⁵ having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, **according to the good pleasure of His will,** ⁶ **to the praise of the glory of His grace,** by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.
Ephesians 1:9 (NKJV)

⁹ having made known to us the mystery of His will, **according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself,**

Conclusion

Commentary by J.C.Philpot on select texts of the Bible

John 6:37

Now, poor sinner, upon whose head the beams of a fiery law are darting; now, poor sinner, distressed in your mind, guilty in your conscience, plagued with a thousand temptations, beset by innumerable doubts and fears, can you not look up a little out of your gloom and sadness, and see that the eternal God is your refuge? Do you not cleave to him with the utmost of your power, as being beaten out of every other refuge? Have you not taken hold of his strength that you may make peace with him? Are you not looking to him? And does he not say, **"Look unto me and be saved, all the ends of the earth?"** He bids you look at him as Moses bade the Israelites look to the bronze serpent. Poor sinner, groaning under the weight of your transgression, he bids you look to him. Has the blessed Lord, he into whose lips grace was poured, not said, "Him that comes to me I will never cast out?" Why should you

not look? Why should you not come to him? Will he cast you out? Do you not feel the secret drawings of his grace, movements upon your heart which make you come often with strong crying and tears, with groans and sighs, earnest, vehement, and continual supplications? What are these but the inward teachings of God, as our Lord said, "It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that has heard, and has learned of the Father, comes unto me."

And do you not know that the Lord himself said, that no man can come to him except the Father who has sent him draws him? These comings, therefore, of your soul in earnest and vehement desire are, according to his own testimony, from the special teachings and gracious drawings of God in you. Having made his dear Son to be the refuge of your soul, he is now drawing you unto him that you may find pardon and peace in him.

But perhaps you will say, **"I am so sinful, so guilty, I have been such a sinner, much worse than you can form any conception of; and it is this which sinks me so low."** Are you lower than brother Jonah when he was in the whale's belly, and, in his own feelings, in the belly of hell? And yet what said he? "Yet will I look again toward your holy temple." Can you not look again toward the holy temple? Is his mercy clean gone forever? So David felt and feared, but it was not Song of Solomon, for "his mercy endures forever;" and that is a long and strong word. Look and live, look and live!

3. Irresistible Grace =====Effectual Calling
will come to Me
4. Perseverance of the Saints===== Continued belief
and the one who comes to Me
5. Preservation of the Saints=====Eternal Security
I will by no means cast out.

B. The Plan Clarified

³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. 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. ⁴⁰ And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

John Calvin Commentary

all whom the Father giveth him come to him; by which words he means, that faith is not a thing which depends on the will of men, so that this man and that man indiscriminately and at random believe, but that God elects those whom he hands over, as it were, to his Son;

