

The What, Who, When, Why and How of Election

Ephesians 1:4-6

July 26, 2015

A novel idea of election

How can God be sovereign in election, and man completely free and accountable?

If God predestines, do my choices really matter?

The What of Election: What is Election?

God has freely and unchangeably ordained whatsoever comes to pass.

(Isa 25:1, 28:29; Rom 9:11)

Election defined, "That eternal act of God whereby He, in His sovereign good pleasure, and on the account of no foreseen merit in them, chooses a certain number of men to be the recipients of special grace and eternal salvation" (Berkhof, Systematic Theo, p.114).

The Who of Election: Who Did God Elect?

The saints, the faithful in Christ Jesus. (*"to all that sincerely obey the Gospel."*)

Election is given so that believer might have comfort in the faith.

Election is not given to discourage, or reject seekers.

The When of the Election

Before the foundation of the world (2 Tim 1:9; 1 Pet 1:19-20)

God's choice, his decree was not a reaction to us in time; it happened before time.

The Why of Election

Why did God choose us? (What reason, what purpose, what goal?)

What is the purpose for us?

What is the purpose for God?

God has chosen us, and that produces humility, and confidence in believers.

What motivated God to chose us? (Deut 7:6) (John 15:13; Eph 2:4-5)

The How of Election. What tools did God utilize?

In Christ

Calvin said, that we ought not contemplate our election outside of Christ.