

Election Signifies the Love of God

Jacob have I loved (Romans 9:13).

Jacob was the object of God's electing grace.

All Christians were and are the object of God's electing grace.

Had it not been so, we would still be lost and dead in our sin (Ephesians 2:11-13).

For it is by God's grace we are saved (Ephesians 2:8).

Had God not first loved us, we would still be lost and dead in our sin (1 John 4:19).

God's love is eternal (Jeremiah 31:3).

And because it is eternal, His love cannot cease.

And because it is eternal, His love cannot fail (Romans 8:37-39).

And because God is immutable, His love for us cannot change (Romans 11:29; Malachi 3:6).

Those upon whom God has set the seal of His love cannot fail to attain glorification, (as will be proven below).

Nor can they be lost (John 10: 28-30).

This is God's promise and God cannot lie nor fail to achieve His purposes (Titus 1:2; Isaiah 46:10).

Consider these verses (Romans 8:28-32):

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

His purpose is his electing purpose (Cf. Romans 9:11).

Those who love God were first loved by Him (1 John 4:19).

God's love is irresistible. The Elect will love Him.

Their ultimate destiny is a good one.

²⁹ For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

In this context God's foreknowledge is His eternal knowledge of those He loves and purposes to save.

Their destiny was determined by God before they were born.

It is a good destiny, for they are to be Christ's brethren in God's family.

³⁰ Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

To insure the successful outcome of God's loving, electing purpose, God has predestined not only their destiny, but the means to achieve that destiny.

The means include effectual calling of the Spirit by the Gospel, their justification by the faith to which they have been called, which will infallibly result in their glorification.

Please note the pronoun, 'He.' God is the cause of all the necessary means to glorification.

³¹ What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

This promise stands on the faithfulness, wisdom and omnipotence of God who cannot fail to achieve His purposes.

³² He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Freely giving us all the gracious means of securing our salvation is nothing compared to sending His Son to cross on our behalf.

Since God has performed the most difficult task of sacrificing His Son, we can be certain He will not fail to give us saving faith and all the adjuncts necessary to fulfill the conditions of achieving salvation.

But There is a Problem

As much as we Christians like to emphasize God's love, we do an extreme disservice to God when we claim our holy God loves all people, yet cannot save all those He loves.

The argument goes typically like this:

"Because God loves all men He gives man the free will to accept or reject His offer of salvation.

If man rejects it, it's not because God doesn't love them and will their salvation."

I fully understand there are several doctrinal issues which underscore the above argument:

- Does man really have 'free will?'
- Can God's will be thwarted?
- Can Christ fail to save those for whom He died?

These issues must be examined in separate posts.

But here is what we can all agree on now:

This writer has just given proof texts which promise all those loved by God will NEVER be lost.

It is impossible for God to lose one of His sheep.

Christ also declares it:

While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled (John 17:12).

Christ not only secures salvation for those Elect pre-crucifixion, He secures salvation for all those Elect post-crucifixion (John 17:20).

Both the Father and the Son's love for the Elect are constant, immutable and eternal (John 13:1).

We are doing God no favor when we make the claim 'God loves everyone without exception.'

For by so doing we are admitting God's failure to achieve His purpose of saving the world which He loves.

In fact, the Bible teaches more are lost than saved (Matt. 7:13-14).

This casts aspersion at Christ as Savior.

He has failed in the very mission given Him, the very purpose of His first advent:

Thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. (Matt. 1:21).

For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. (Luke 19:10).