

Session 3: Unconditional Election

Ephesians 1:3-14

Introduction

- Review Radical Depravity

- Embarking on a difficult subject, important to remember:
 - Creator Creature Distinction
 - The place of the Word of God
 - Theology: Faith seeking understanding

1. Scriptural Basis

- a. Elect/Chosen
 - i. Jesus
 - 1. Matthew 11:25-28
 - 2. John 6:35-40; 10:16
 - ii. Paul
 - 1. Ephesians 1:4
 - 2. 1 Thes 1:4-5; 2 Thes 2:13-14
 - iii. Peter: 1 Peter 1:1; 2:9
- b. Unconditional
 - i. Genesis 12:1-3 (See also Josh 24:2)
 - ii. Deut 7:7-8; 9:4-6
 - iii. 1 Cor 1:26-31

2. Romans 9

- a. Has God's Word failed? (Verses 1-6)

- b. God's Choice (6-13)

- c. Is God Unjust? (14-18)

- d. Why does He still find fault? (19-24)

Kuyper: “We dare not forget that while God, according to the secret of his counsel, elects those who are to be saved . . . this same omnipotent God has made us morally responsible, so that we are lost, not because we could not be saved, but because we would not.”

- i. Boyce/Ryken/Sproul Commenting on Romans 9:22-24
 - 1. “This means that God considers the display of his attributes to be worth the whole drama of human history—to be worth creation, the Fall, election, reprobation, and everything else. From God’s point of view, the revelation of his glory—meaning the revelation of all his glorious attributes—is the grand priority.”

3. Benefits of Election

4. Implications

- a. Election and Evangelism
 - i. Acts 18:9-10
 - ii. 1 Cor 1:21
- b. Election and Prayer

Conclusion

Loraine Boettner: “...salvation is absolutely and solely of grace—that God is free, in consistency with the infinite perfections of his nature, to save none, few, many, or all, according to the sovereign good pleasure of his will. It also follows that salvation is not based on any merits in the creature, and that it depends on God, and not on men... God acts as a sovereign in saving some and passing by others who are left to the just recompense of their sins...

“We cannot explain the workings of Providence; but we know that the Judge of all the earth shall do right, and that when we attain to perfect knowledge we shall see that He has sufficient reasons for all His acts.”