

SOUL WINNING⁺ IN PRACTICE!

So, how do we put this into practice, into the day-to-day?

I. Movement

Many Christians, because they cannot do everything end up doing nothing.

Since they cannot take an individual the entire way, they fail to take them anywhere at all!

Thoughts:

- All humans are on this continuum
- Christians must discern where the individual is on the continuum
- Christians then help move the individual further on the continuum

Further to the right

As far to the right as possible

Pre-evangelism

Evangelism

Post-Evangelism

Apologetics

Scripture gives us extended examples of each of these:

1. Stephen: pre-evangelism

Acts 7:51 Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye. **Acts 7:52** Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers: **Acts 7:53** Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.

Acts 7:54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

Acts 7:55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, **Acts 7:56** And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. **Acts 7:57** Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, **Acts 7:58** And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. **Acts 7:59** And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. **Acts 7:60** And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Acts 8:1 And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.

Acts 9:5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: **it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks**

Acts 26:14 And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? **it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks (κέντρα).** **Acts 26:15** And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest.

2. Ananias: evangelism

Acts 9:10 And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord. **Acts 9:11** And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, **Acts 9:12** And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight. **Acts 9:13** Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: **Acts 9:14** And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name. **Acts 9:15** But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: **Acts 9:16** For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake. **Acts 9:17** And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. **Acts 9:18** And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. **Acts 9:19** And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain

days with the disciples which were at Damascus. Acts 9:20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

3. Barnabas: post-evangelism

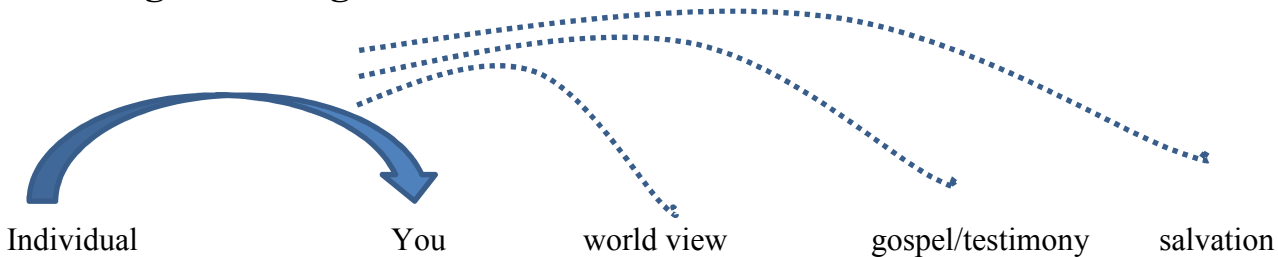
Acts 9:26 And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: **but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple.** Acts 9:27 But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Acts 9:28 And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem. Acts 9:29 And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed against the Grecians: but they went about to slay him.

Acts 4:36 And Joses (Ιωσής), who by the apostles was surnamed **Barnabas (Βαρνάβας)**, (which is, being interpreted, **The son of consolation (υἱὸς παρακλήσεως)**), a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus, Acts 4:37 Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Thoughts:

- **Don't think you must do everything – do something!**
- **Each step has its obstacles → usually internal & related to fear**
- **All Christians can & must be involved in all three steps / stages**
- **Don't worry about which step → just engage!**

II. Bridge-building



1 Peter 2:17 **Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.**

Romans 12:10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

Romans 12:14 Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.

Romans 12:15 Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

Romans 12:16 Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

Romans 12:17 Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

John 17:18 **As** thou hast sent me into the world, **even so** have I also sent them into the world.

John 20:21 Then said Jesus to them **again**, Peace be unto you: **as** my Father hath sent me, **even so** send I you.

Thoughts on bridge-building:

- **This assumes people are s**

➤ This **requires** Christians to make the f m / set of
Remember: **We** are commanded to

➤ This **demands** we e &/ are e → no self-preoccupied Christians!

➤ This **utilizes** the simplest of steps:

K

Fr

Th

Speaking of others **or**

Romans 12:14 Bless (Εὐλογεῖτε) them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.

Em / sy

H

Staying out of the / justice

This is true at home / work / church / family....

III. Teamwork

John 4:35 Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. John 4:36 And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. John 4:37 And herein is that saying true, **One soweth, and another reapeth.** John 4:38 I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed **no** labour: **other** men laboured, **and** ye are entered into their labours.

1 Corinthians 3:5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? 1 Corinthians 3:6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. 1 Corinthians 3:7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. 1 Corinthians 3:8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

ELECTION

No (real) election	Election ⁺	Election
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2 Thessalonians 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, **brethren beloved of the Lord** (ἀδελφοὶ ἠγαπημένοι ὑπὸ κυρίου), because **God hath from the beginning** (εἴλετο ὑμᾶς ὁ θεὸς ἀπ' ἀρχῆς) **chosen you to salvation** (εἰς σωτηρίαν) through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: **2 Thessalonians 2:14** Whereunto **he called** (ὁ ἐκάλεσεν) you **by our gospel** (διὰ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου ἡμῶν), to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

To even mention this word prompts many reactions – most of them bad!

- I don't believe in election!
- Calvinism is the enemy of soul winning! (of course election is a Biblical word and concept and **therefore** precedes any discussion of Calvinism / Arminianism!)

2 Timothy 2:10 **Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that** they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

- A topic that is off limits – verboten!
- Anger, hatred, nearly violence!
- Dismissive, abusive language. Putting you down &/ putting you in your place!

Then one day you read the Bible!

Mark 13:20 And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: **but for the elect's** (ἀλλὰ διὰ τοὺς ἐκλεκτούς) **sake, whom he hath chosen** (οὗς ἐξελέξατο), he hath shortened the days.

John 13:18 I speak not of you all: **I know whom I have chosen** (ἐγὼ οἶδα οὗς ἐξελεξάμην): but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me.

John 15:16 Ye have **not** chosen (Οὐχ ὑμεῖς με ἐξελέξασθε) me, **but I have chosen** (ἀλλ' ἐγὼ ἐξελεξάμην ὑμᾶς) you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

John 15:19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, **but I have chosen** (ἀλλ' ἐγὼ ἐξελεξάμην ὑμᾶς ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου) you **out of the world**, therefore the world hateth you.

1 Corinthians 1:22 For the **Jews require a sign**, and the **Greeks seek after wisdom**: **1 Corinthians 1:23** But we preach Christ crucified, **unto** (ἰουδαίοις μὲν σκάνδαλον) **the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto** (ἑλλησιν δὲ μωρίαν) **the Greeks foolishness**; **1 Corinthians 1:24** **But unto** (αὐτοῖς δὲ τοῖς κλητοῖς) **them which are called, both** Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

1 Corinthians 1:25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. **1 Corinthians 1:26** For ye see **your calling** (τὴν κλήσιν ὑμῶν), brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble (ἐυγενεῖς), are called: **1 Corinthians 1:27** But **God hath chosen** (ἐξελέξατο ὁ θεός) the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and **God hath chosen** (ἐξελέξατο ὁ θεός) the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; **1 Corinthians 1:28** And base things of the world, and things which are despised, **hath God chosen** (ἐξελέξατο ὁ θεός), yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: **1 Corinthians 1:29** **That no flesh should glory in his presence**. **1 Corinthians 1:30** But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: **1 Corinthians 1:31** **That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord**.

Ephesians 1:4 According as **he hath chosen** (ἐξελέξατο ἡμᾶς ἐν αὐτῷ πρὸ καταβολῆς κόσμου) **us in him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

James 2:5 Hearken, my beloved brethren, **Hath** not **God chosen** (ὁ θεὸς ἐξελέξατο) the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

Matthew 20:16 So the last shall be first, and the first last: **for many be called** (πολλοὶ γὰρ εἰσὶν κλητοί), **but few chosen** (ὀλίγοι δὲ ἐκλεκτοί).

Matthew 22:14 **For many are called** (Πολλοὶ γὰρ εἰσὶν κλητοί), **but few are chosen** (ὀλίγοι δὲ ἐκλεκτοί).

Matthew 24:22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: **but for the elect's** (διὰ δὲ τοῦς ἐκλεκτοῦς) **sake** those days shall be shortened.

Matthew 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive **the very elect** (τοὺς ἐκλεκτούς).

Matthew 24:31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together **his elect** (τοὺς ἐκλεκτούς αὐτοῦ) from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Luke 18:7 And shall not God avenge **his own elect** (τῶν ἐκλεκτῶν αὐτοῦ), which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?

Romans 8:33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of **God's elect** (ἐκλεκτῶν θεοῦ)? It is God that justifieth.

Romans 16:13 Salute Rufus **chosen** (τὸν ἐκλεκτὸν ἐν κυρίῳ) **in the Lord**, and his mother and mine.

Colossians 3:12 Put on therefore, **as the elect** (ὡς ἐκλεκτοὶ τοῦ θεοῦ) of God, **holy** (ἅγιοι) **and beloved** (ἠγαπημένοι), bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; **Colossians 3:13** Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. **Colossians 3:14** And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

2 Timothy 2:10 Therefore I endure all things **for the elect's** (διὰ τοὺς ἐκλεκτούς) **sakes**, **that** they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

Titus 1:1 Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of **God's elect** (ἐκλεκτῶν θεοῦ), and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness;

1 Peter 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, **to the strangers scattered throughout** (ἐκλεκτοῖς παρεπιδήμοις διασπορᾶς) Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, **1 Peter 1:2** **Elect** according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

1 Peter 2:4 To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but **chosen** (ἐκλεκτόν) of God, and **precious** (ἔντιμον),

1 Peter 2:6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, **elect** (ἐκλεκτόν), **precious** (ἔντιμον): and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

1 Peter 2:9 But ye are **a chosen** (γένος ἐκλεκτόν) **generation**, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him **who hath called** (καλέσας) you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Revelation 17:14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are **called** (κλητοί), and **chosen** (ἐκλεκτοί), and **faithful** (πιστοί).

Acts 9:15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is **a chosen** (σκεῦος ἐκλογῆς) **vessel** unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

Romans 9:11 (For the children being **not** yet born, **neither** having done any good or evil, **that** the purpose of God **according to election** (ἢ κατ' ἐκλογὴν) might stand, not of works, **but of him that calleth** (ἀλλ' ἐκ τοῦ καλοῦντος);)

Romans 11:5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant **according to the election of grace** (κατ' ἐκλογὴν χάριτος).

Romans 11:7 What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; **but the election** (ἢ δὲ ἐκλογὴ) hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded

Romans 11:28 As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching **the election (τὴν ἐκλογὴν)**, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. **Romans 11:29** For **the gifts (τὰ χαρίσματα)** and **calling (ἡ κλήσις τοῦ θεοῦ)** of God are without repentance.

1 Thessalonians 1:4 Knowing, **brethren beloved (ἀδελφοὶ ἠγαπημένοι ὑπὸ θεοῦ)**, your **election (τὴν ἐκλογὴν ὑμῶν)** of God.

2 Peter 1:10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your **calling (τὴν κλήσιν)** and **election (καὶ ἐκλογὴν)** sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

John 6:37 All that the Father giveth (**Πᾶν ὃ δίδωσίν μοι ὁ πατήρ**) me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

John 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. **John 6:45** It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me. **John 6:65** And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except **it were given (δεδομένον αὐτῷ) unto him** of my Father.

John 17:2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, **that he should give (δώσει)** eternal life to **as many as thou hast given (πᾶν ὃ δέδωκας αὐτῷ) him**. **John 17:3** And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

John 17:6 I have manifested thy name unto the men **which thou gavest (οὓς δέδωκας) me** out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.

John 17:9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for **them which thou hast given me (ὧν δέδωκάς μοι)**; for they are thine.

John 17:11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name **those whom thou hast given (ὧν δέδωκάς μοι) me**, that they may be one, as we are.

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

John 17:24 Father, I will that they also, **whom thou hast given (οὓς δέδωκάς μοι) me**, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, **which thou hast given (ἣν ἔδωκάς) me**: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.

By the time you are finished with the texts alone – you know you must believe something! You can no longer blow this off or change the subject!

No (real) election	Election+	Election alone
Conditional election	Unconditional election	Unconditional election
No (real) predestination	S predestination	D Predestination
Symmetrical Y choose!	Asymmetrical H chooses and <u>therefore</u> y choose!	Symmetrical H chooses
Treated as un / n	Treated as f	Treated as cr

I. Election alone view

This view, in my experience, is not

It is probably most common in pr : que sera, sera!

What does this view look like in practice? No tears, no prayer, no begging God, no witnessing, no missions, no missions giving (maybe a tip), certainly no s , no going
Also no s of r people, no burden, no testimony of much labor....

Romans 10:1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.

2 Corinthians 11:21 I speak as concerning reproach, as though we had been weak. Howbeit whereinssoever any is bold, (I speak foolishly,) I am bold also. **2 Corinthians 11:22** Are they Hebrews? so am I. Are they Israelites? so am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? so am I. **2 Corinthians 11:23** Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. **2 Corinthians 11:24** Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. **2 Corinthians 11:25** Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; **2 Corinthians 11:26** In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; **2 Corinthians 11:27** In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. **2 Corinthians 11:28** Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.

In theory:

This appeals only to a small group of highly intellectual people who tend to intellectualize all of life!

II. No real election / conditional election

Election causes a visceral, deeply emotional response for some – irrational, red flags, bull after you, rage.... Rarely will this group deal with texts. Name-calling and black-balling are more common. This group, with very few exceptions, never admits to being Arminian!

Views:

1. Chosen

This is also called

Ephesians 1:4 According as he hath chosen us **in him** before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

This sounds good, in fact, very good! It has the ring of Bible about it. However, this is not exactly as it sounds!

In Christ is a c / b

No is in the category / box.

You to get in the category / box!

So God chooses you “in Christ” because you chose / choose to

2. Chosen to

Ephesians 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, **that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:**

John 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, **that ye should go and bring forth fruit**, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: **Ephesians 2:9** Not of works, lest any man should boast. **Ephesians 2:10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus **unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.**

This view has several problems:

A. A deficient view of

Salvation means only J to them – nothing else! In Scripture, salvation involves J, S & G. All whom God chooses go salvation he also chooses good works for them to do.

John 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

Ephesians 2:4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, **Ephesians 2:5** Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) **Ephesians 2:8** For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: **Ephesians 2:9** Not of works, lest any man should boast. **Ephesians 2:10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God (τοῖς ἀγαπῶσιν τὸν θεόν), to them who are the called according to his purpose (τοῖς κατὰ πρόθεσιν κλητοῖς οὖσιν) . **Romans 8:29** 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. **Romans 8:30** 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.

B. A deceptive view of - even to good works.

This is a bit of the “bait & switch” technique.
 God chooses you for good works.
 You choose
 So again, your choice is determinative!

C. A superficial reading of

3. Chosen according to foreknowledge

God looks down the tunnel of time (or all time is present to God) and [fore]knows what c you will make.
 God then choses those He [fore] knows / [fore] sees will

Romans 8:29 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.

1 Peter 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, **1 Peter 1:2** Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

All 3 views are Arminian views. All 3 views are often mixed up together.
 All 3 views are common among Independent, Fundamental Baptists – but are commonly called “ ”

It is OK to hold one of these views (I think they are not Biblical) but they should be called what they are!

Problems:

A. If God [fore] knows / sees your choices, could you be free to make a d choice / another

B. What’s the point of all the t & l ?

So:

God elects those He knows will elect themselves!?

God chooses those He knows will choose themselves!?

C. The question of what is foreknown – w or w ?

Romans 8:28 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. **Romans 8:29 For whom he did foreknow** (οὓς πρόέγνω), he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. **Romans 8:30** 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.

Romans 11:2 God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew (ὃν πρόέγνω). Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying,

1 Peter 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, **to the strangers scattered** (ἐκλεκτοῖς παρεπιδήμοις διασπορᾶς) throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, **1 Peter 1:2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father** (κατὰ πρόγνωσιν θεοῦ πατρὸς), through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

D. The Biblical definition of foreknow / foreknowledge

Acts 2:23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel (τῇ ὀρισμένῃ βουλή) and foreknowledge of God (προγνώσει τοῦ θεοῦ), ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

Acts 26:5 Which knew me from the beginning (προγινώσκοντές με ἄνωθεν), if they would testify, that after the most straitest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee.

Romans 8:28 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. **Romans 8:29 For whom he did foreknow** (οὓς πρόέγνω), he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. **Romans 8:30** 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.

Romans 11:2 God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew (ὃν πρόέγνω). Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying,

1 Peter 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, **to the strangers scattered** (ἐκλεκτοῖς παρεπιδήμοις διασπορᾶς) throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, **1 Peter 1:2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father** (κατὰ πρόγνωσιν θεοῦ πατρὸς), through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

1 Peter 1:20 Who verily was foreordained (προεγνωσμένου μὲν πρὸ καταβολῆς κόσμου) **before the foundation of the world**, but was manifest in these last times for you,

2 Peter 3:17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before (προγινώσκοντες), beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.

The word “know” in relationship to people:

Genesis 4:1 And Adam knew (ἔγινε) Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD.

Genesis 4:25 And Adam knew (ἔγινε) his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.

Genesis 18:16 And the men rose up from thence, and looked toward Sodom: and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way. **Genesis 18:18** Seeing that Abraham shall surely

become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? **Genesis 18:19** For I know (יֵחֵבְדֵךְ) him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

Exodus 2:23 And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage. **Exodus 2:24** And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. **Exodus 2:25** And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect (עָרַף) unto them.

Jeremiah 1:3 It came also in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, unto the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah the son of Josiah king of Judah, unto the carrying away of Jerusalem captive in the fifth month. **Jeremiah 1:4** Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, **Jeremiah 1:5** Before I formed thee in the belly I knew (יָדַעְתִּי) thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

Hosea 13:4 Yet I am the LORD thy God from the land of Egypt, and thou shalt know (יָדַעְתָּ) no god but me: for there is no saviour beside me. **Hosea 13:5** I did know (יָדַעְתִּי) thee in the wilderness, in the land of great drought.

Amos 3:1 Hear this word that the LORD hath spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying, **Amos 3:2** You only have I known (יָדַעְתִּי) of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

Matthew 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. **Matthew 7:22** Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? **Matthew 7:23** And then will I profess unto them, I never knew (Οὐδέποτε ἔγνων ὑμᾶς) you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

John 10:14 I am the good shepherd, and know (γινώσκω τὰ ἐμὰ) my sheep, and am known (καὶ γινώσκομαι ὑπὸ τῶν ἐμῶν) of mine.

1 Corinthians 8:3 But if any man love God, the same is known (ἔγνωσται ὑπ' αὐτοῦ) of him.

1 Corinthians 13:12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know (γινώσκω) in part; but then shall I know (ἐπιγνώσομαι) even as also I am known (ἐπεγνώσθη).

Galatians 4:8 Howbeit then, when ye knew (οὐκ εἰδότες θεόν) not God, ye did service unto them which by nature are no gods.

Galatians 4:9 But now, after that ye have known (γνόντες θεόν) God, or rather are known (μᾶλλον δὲ γνωσθέντες ὑπὸ θεοῦ) of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?

2 Timothy 2:19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth (Ἔγνω) them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

EXCURSUS: SALVATION ON THE GOOD SHIP LOLLIPOP!

What we all agree on: God ordained the good ship lollipop for salvation. Anyone on the good ship lollipop is saved!

Options:

A. God chose the ship – an e ship!

ship and you choose to get on or not get on the

This is all & only

This is called:

B. God chose what you

God's choice has nothing to do with getting on / off the ship!

Election to everything you do on the ship but nothing to do with entering / a b on the ship!

This is called:

C. God chose you to get on the ship because He f / f you would get on the ship.

This is called:

(All 3 views are compatible with 5 point Arminianism (get on, get off, get back on...) as well as 4-4.5 Arminianism (you can't get off))

D. God chose you to get on the ship!

You don't know if

You won't know

E. Unconditional election (the Biblical view from my perspective)

- God chose you to
- God chose all the to get you on the ship
- God chose to you on the ship and all the to you on the ship.
- God chose what you on the ship

III. Unconditional election⁺

Rarely can we see it all / even most of salvation in this life. We know most of our side of things but God's work is mostly unknown!

1. Unconditional election – an election of grace

This gets to the root of the matter. Election is all of grace making salvation all of grace from start to finish! Eternity past to eternity future!

Romans 11:5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant **according to the election of grace.** **Romans 11:6** And **if** by grace, **then** is it no more of works: **otherwise grace is no more grace.** But **if** it be of works, **then** is it no more grace: **otherwise work is no more work.**

Ephesians 2:4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, **Ephesians 2:5** Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, **(by grace ye are saved;)** **Ephesians 2:6** And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: **Ephesians 2:7** **That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.**

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that **not** of yourselves: it is the gift of God: **Ephesians 2:9** **Not** of works, lest any man should boast.

Romans 9:11 (For the children being **not** yet born, **neither** having done any good or evil, **that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)** **Romans 9:12** It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger.

Romans 9:13 As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated. **Romans 9:14** **What shall we say then? Is there**

unrighteousness with God? God forbid. **Romans 9:15** For he saith to Moses, **I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. Romans 9:16** **So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy. Romans 9:18** **Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth.**

2 Timothy 1:9 **Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, 2 Timothy 1:10** But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

2 Thessalonians 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, **because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation** through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

Deuteronomy 7:6 For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God: **the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth. Deuteronomy 7:7** The LORD did **not** set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: **Deuteronomy 7:8** **But because the LORD loved you, and** because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 9:4 Speak **not** thou in thine heart, after that the LORD thy God hath cast them out from before thee, saying, **For my righteousness the LORD hath brought me in to possess this land:** but for the wickedness of these nations the LORD doth drive them out from before thee.

Deuteronomy 9:5 **Not for thy righteousness, or for the uprightness of thine heart,** dost thou go to possess their land: but for the wickedness of these nations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee, and that he may perform the word which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. **Deuteronomy 9:6** Understand therefore, that the LORD thy God giveth thee **not** this good land to possess it for thy righteousness; **for thou art a stiffnecked people. Deuteronomy 9:7** Remember, and forget not, how thou provokedst the LORD thy God to wrath in the wilderness: from the day that thou didst depart out of the land of Egypt, until ye came unto this place, ye have been rebellious against the LORD.

Deuteronomy 9:24 Ye have been rebellious against the LORD from the day that I knew you.

2. The grand providence of God!

Galatians 1:15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace,

Jeremiah 1:5 **Before** I formed thee in the belly **I knew thee;** and **before** thou camest forth out of the womb **I sanctified thee,** and **I ordained thee** a prophet unto the nations.

3. The regenerating work of the Holy Spirit

2 Thessalonians 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation **through sanctification of the Spirit** and belief of the truth:

1 Peter 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, **1 Peter 1:2** Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, **through sanctification of the Spirit, unto (εις ὑπακοήν και ῥαντισμὸν αἵματος Ἰησοῦ χριστοῦ) obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:** Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

Acts 16:14 And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: **whose heart the Lord opened, that** she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

Luke 24:30 And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. **Luke 24:31** **And their eyes were opened,** and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. **Luke 24:32** And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, **and while he opened to us the scriptures?**

Luke 24:44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. **Luke 24:45** **Then opened he their understanding, that** they might understand the scriptures,

This is the key to it all but should not be seen in a mechanical way:

- **C** of sin
- **Diminishing of**
- **O** of our eyes &/ understanding
- **Changing of our d** / d
- **Giving of f** & r

Acts 5:31 Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, **for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.**

Acts 11:18 When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, **Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.**

Acts 14:27 And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, **and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.**

Acts 16:14 And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: **whose heart the Lord opened, that** she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

Philippians 1:29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, **not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;**

VI. Of the Freeness of Salvation

We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to **all** by the gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial penitent, and obedient faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel; which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation

Isa. 55:1, Rev. 22:17, Rom. 16:25-26, Mark 1:15, Rom. 1:15-17, John 5:40, Matt.23:37, Rom.9:32, Pro. 1:24, Acts 13:46, John 3:19, Matt. 11:20, Luke 10:27, II Thess. 1:8

VII. Of Grace in Regeneration

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated, or born again; **that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel;** and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life
John 3:3, John 3:6-7, I Cor.3:14, Rev.14:3, Rev. 21:27, II Cor. 5:17, Ezek. 36:26, Deu. 30-6, Rom. 2:28-29, Rom.5:5, I John 4:7, John 3:8, John 1:13, James 1:16-18, I Cor. 1:30, Phil. 2:13, I Peter 1:22-25, I John 5:1, Eph. 4:20-24, Col. 3:9-11, Eph. 5:9, Rom. 8:90, Gal. 5:16-23, Eph. 3:14-21, Matt. 3:8-10, Matt.7:20, I John 5:4, 18

VIII. Of Repentance and Faith

We believe that repentance and faith are **sacred duties and also inseparable graces**, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, and relying on him alone as the only and all-sufficient Saviour

Mark 1:15, Acts 11:18, Eph. 2:8, I John 5:1, John 16:8, Acts 2:37-38, Acts 16:30-31
Luke 18:13, Luke 15:18-21, James 4:7-10, II Cor. 7:11, Tim. 10:12-13, Ps.51, Rom. 10:9-11, Acts 3:22-23, Heb. 4:14, Ps.2:6, Heb. 1:8, Heb. 7:25, II Tim. 1:12

IX. Of God's Purpose of Grace

We believe that election is the **eternal purpose of God**, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners; **that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end;** that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness,

being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable; **that it utterly excludes boasting**, and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy; **that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree**; that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe the gospel, that it is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence.

II Tim. 1:8-9; Eph. 1:3-14; I Peter 1:1-2; Rom. 11:5-6; John 15:16; I John 4:19; II Thess. 2:13-14; Acts 13:48; John 10:16; Matt. 20:16; Acts 15:14; Ex. 33:18-19; Matt. 20:15; Eph. 1:11; Rom. 9:23-24; Jer. 31:3; Rom. 11:28-29; James 1:17-18; II Tim. 1:9; Rom. 11:32-36; I Cor. 1:26-31; Rom. 3:27; Rom. 4:16; Col. 3:12; I Cor. 3:5-7; I Cor. 15:10; I Peter 5:10; Acts 1:24; I Thess. 2:13; I Peter 2:9; Luke 18:7; John 15:16; I Thess. 2:12; II Tim. 2:10; I Cor. 9:22; Rom. 8:28-30; John 6:37-40; I Thess 1:4-10; Isa. 42:16; Rom. 11:29; II Peter 1:10-11; Phil. 3:12; Heb. 6:11

4. The preaching of the Gospel / truth

2 Thessalonians 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit **and belief of the truth: 2 Thessalonians 2:14** Whereunto he called you **by our gospel**, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, **1 Peter 1:2** Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, **through sanctification of the Spirit, unto (εις ὑπακοήν καὶ ῥάντισμὸν αἵματος Ἰησοῦ χριστοῦ) obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ**: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.**

Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: **Matthew 28:20** Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Acts 20:20 And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house, **Acts 20:21** Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

5. The effectual call, in time, to salvation

6. Individual response of faith & repentance

2 Thessalonians 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit **and belief of the truth: 2 Thessalonians 2:14** Whereunto he called you **by our gospel**, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Galatians 1:15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, **and called me by his grace,**

1 Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises **of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:**

1 Peter 5:10 But the God of all grace, **who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus**, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, **that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

John 3:18 He that **believeth on him is not condemned**: but he that **believeth not** is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

John 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

7. An all-in, all-out

2 Timothy 2:10 Therefore I endure **all** things for the elect’s sakes, **that** they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

Romans 10:1 Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is, **that they might be saved.**

Acts 21:10 And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus. **Acts 21:11** And when he was come unto us, he took Paul’s girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles. **Acts 21:12** And when we heard these things, both we, and they of that place, besought him not to go up to Jerusalem. **Acts 21:13** **Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.** **Acts 21:14** And when he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying, The will of the Lord be done.

2 Corinthians 11:21 I speak as concerning reproach, as though we had been weak. Howbeit whereinsoever any is bold, (I speak foolishly,) I am bold also. **2 Corinthians 11:22** Are they Hebrews? so am I. Are they Israelites? so am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? so am I. **2 Corinthians 11:23** Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. **2 Corinthians 11:24** Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. **2 Corinthians 11:25** Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; **2 Corinthians 11:26** In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; **2 Corinthians 11:27** In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. **2 Corinthians 11:28** Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches. **2 Corinthians 11:29** Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not? **2 Corinthians 11:30** If I must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities. **2 Corinthians 11:31** The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is blessed for evermore, knoweth that I lie not. **2 Corinthians 11:32** In Damascus the governor under Aretas the king kept the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desirous to apprehend me: **2 Corinthians 11:33** And through a window in a basket was I let down by the wall, and escaped his hands.

←--Arminianism-----Calvinism-----Hyper-Calvinism--→		
N Assurance	F Assurance	L , if a , Assurance

I grew up on “eternal security” preaching. I loved it and still love those texts. They gave me then and still give me both hope and strength!

John 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, **hath** everlasting life, and **shall not** come into condemnation; **but** is passed from death unto life.

John 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. **John 10:29** My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

2 Timothy 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

Romans 8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? **Romans 8:36** As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. **Romans 8:37** Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. **Romans 8:38** For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, **Romans 8:39** Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

As a young man (18-20), I was challenged with and by Arminian views. I soon recognized the handful of texts that taught “losing your salvation.” As a Pastor I started to wrestle with perseverance and how faith and works related to salvation.

Introductory thoughts:

- 1. Christians rarely see this as a s _____ – that is that God speaks with _____ voice!**
- 2. Christians usually think one or two verses are sufficient to know “what the Bible says / teaches,” &/ “what I believe!”**

Matthew 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end (εις τέλος), the same shall be saved.

This verse settles many things for a large swath of Christians but completely fails to consider the context:

- **End of what?**
- **Saved from what?**
- **Endure for what?**

Matthew 24:3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, **Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end (της συντελειας του αιωνος) of the world?**

Matthew 24:6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end (το τέλος) is not yet.

Matthew 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end (το τέλος) come.

Matthew 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) **Matthew 24:16** Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: **Matthew 24:17** Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: **Matthew 24:18** Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. **Matthew 24:19** And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!

Matthew 24:10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. **Matthew 24:21** For then shall be **great tribulation**, such as was **not** since the beginning of the world to this time, **no, nor ever shall be**. **Matthew 24:22** **And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.**

John 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. **John 10:29** My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

John 10:27 My sheep **hear** my voice, and **I know** them, and **they** follow me:

Remember:

One / two verses do not establish a doctrine.

The correct understanding of one verse does not disprove the opposite / other doctrine!

3. Most assuredly this is more complex than any one verse!

Little, if any, assurance	Assurance	Full assurance	Assurance	Little, if any, assurance
----->				
<-----				
Eternal security	Eternal security + Perseverance of the saints		Perseverance of the saints	

John 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

1 John 2:3 And hereby we do know that we know him, **if** we keep his commandments.

1 John 3:10 In this the children of God are manifest, **and the children of the devil**: whosoever doeth not righteousness is **not** of God, **neither** he that loveth not his brother.

1 John 3:14 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.

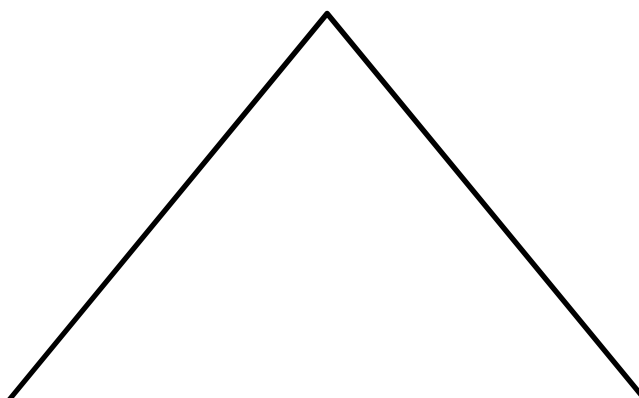
2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again **unto** (εἰς) a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **1 Peter 1:4 To** (εἰς) an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, **1 Peter 1:5** Who are kept by the power of God through faith **unto** (εἰς) salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Romans 11:29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

Strangely, both Arminians and High / Hyper-Calvinists end up with little, if any, assurance. Both emphasize the absolute necessity of perseverance and in the end look a great deal alike.

Obviously, there are multiple positions → this is a continuum!



Thoughts:

1. Both c are repeatedly taught in the Scripture.

2. Both are obviously

3. Both are true because of perseverance and not ours!

Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

Hebrews 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the **author** (ἀρχηγόν) and **finisher** (τελειωτήν) of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

4. At the moment of salvation we are eternally s

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again **unto** (εἰς) a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **1 Peter 1:4 To** (εἰς) an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, **1 Peter 1:5** Who are kept by the power of God through faith **unto** (εἰς) salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Romans 8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? **Romans 8:36** As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

Romans 8:37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. **Romans 8:38** For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, **Romans 8:39** Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

John 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. **John 10:29** My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

Romans 11:29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

Romans 8:28 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.

John 6:37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

5. God's people also become...go !

Proverbs 4:18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day. **Proverbs 4:19** The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know **not** at what they stumble.

John 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

Galatians 5:6 For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

1 John 2:3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. **1 John 2:4** He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. **1 John 2:5** But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. **1 John 2:6** He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

1 John 2:9 He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now.

1 John 2:10 He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. **1 John 2:11** But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

1 John 3:10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

1 John 3:14 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.

Godliness can be called many different names / go by many different names: follow(ing), obey, obedience, Christ-like, works, good works, fruit of the Spirit, growth in grace....

Logically, salvation can only have 1 of 4 relationships with faith and works:

1. Works → (no Christian group believes this)
2. Faith works → salvation
3. Faith salvation + no (faith is shorthand for faith alone in Christ alone)
4. Faith salvation good works (faith is shorthand for faith alone in Christ alone)

The Role of Works in Salvation		
N J role rewards	Con + Basis of rewards	E role
Faith (faith eliminates works)	Faith works	Faith works (works eliminate faith)
N role	D role	S role
N works	W	O works

6. God's people become godly because of G → this is G work!

Ecclesiastes 3:14 I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him.

1 John 3:6 Whosoever abideth in him sinneth **not**: whosoever sinneth hath **not** seen him, **neither** known him.

1 John 3:9 Whosoever is born of God doth **not** commit sin (ἀμαρτίαν οὐ ποιεῖ); **for** (ὅτι) his seed remaineth in him: and he **cannot** sin (οὐ δύναται ἀμαρτάνειν), **because** (ὅτι) he is born of God.

Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath **begun** a good work in you **will perform** it **until** the day of Jesus Christ:

Philippians 2:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation** with fear and trembling. **Philippians 2:13** For it is **God which worketh in you** both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

7. Lack of godliness means...?

➤ Lack of G &/ gr

John 2:23 Now when he was in Jerusalem at the passover, in the feast day, many **believed (ἐπίστευσαν)** in his name, when they saw the miracles which he did. **John 2:24** But **Jesus did not commit (οὐκ ἐπίστευεν ἑαυτὸν αὐτοῖς)** himself unto them, because he knew all men, **John 2:25** And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man.

John 6:60 Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; **who can hear it?**

John 6:61 When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you? **John 6:62** What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before? **John 6:63** It is the spirit that quickeneth, the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life. **John 6:64** But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him. **John 6:65** And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.

John 6:66 From that time **many** of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.

John 6:67 Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? **John 6:68** Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. **John 6:69** And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.

John 8:30 As he spake these words, **many believed on him.** **John 8:31** Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, **If** ye continue in my word, **then** are ye my disciples **indeed (ἀληθῶς)**; **John 8:32** And ye shall know the truth, **and** the truth shall make you free.

John 8:33 They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were **never** in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? **John 8:34** Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.** **John 8:35** And the servant abideth **not** in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever. **John 8:36** **If** the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. **John 8:37** I know that ye are Abraham's seed; **but ye seek to kill me**, because my word hath no place in you. **John 8:38** I speak that which I have seen with **my** Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with **your** father. **John 8:39** They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, **If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham.** **John 8:40** But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did **not** Abraham. **John 8:41** Ye do the deeds of **your** father. Then said they to him, **We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.** **John 8:42** Jesus said unto them, **If** God were **your** Father, **ye would love me**: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. **John 8:43** **Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word.** **John 8:44** **Ye are of your father the devil**, and the lusts of **your** father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: **for he is a liar, and the father of it.**

➤ Lack of m

1 John 2:12 I write unto you, **little children**, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake. **1 John 2:13** I write unto you, **fathers**, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, **young men**, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, **little children**, because ye have known the Father. **1 John 2:14** I have written unto you, **fathers**, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, **young men**, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.

1 Corinthians 3:1 And I, brethren, **could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.** **1 Corinthians 3:2** I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. **1 Corinthians 3:3** For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, **are ye not carnal, and walk as men?** **1 Corinthians 3:4** For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?

2 Peter 1:5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; **2 Peter 1:6** And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; **2 Peter 1:7** And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. **2 Peter 1:8** For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. **2 Peter 1:9** But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. **2 Peter 1:10** Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and

election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: **2 Peter 1:11** For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Of course, we know that in the Bible:

1. This is **not** considered
2. This is **not** considered
3. This is **also** considered **d** and **qu**
4. This will almost always be tied to **in** and **d** → just as Peter indicates!

➤ **The presence of**

Many give these folks a bye / a pass – no big deal, once saved always saved!!! They are fine!
 Scripture recognizes backslidden people **and** that backslidden people are **universally** miserable!

Psalm 51:1 Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. **Psalm 51:2** Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. **Psalm 51:3** For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. **Psalm 51:4** Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest. **Psalm 51:5** Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. **Psalm 51:6** Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. **Psalm 51:7** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. **Psalm 51:8** Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. **Psalm 51:9** Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. **Psalm 51:10** Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. **Psalm 51:11** Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. **Psalm 51:12** Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

Luke 5:8 When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.

2 Peter 2:7 And delivered just Lot, **vexed** (*καταπονούμενον*) with the filthy conversation of the wicked: **2 Peter 2:8** (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, **vexed** (*ἐβασάνιζεν*) his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;) **2 Peter 2:9** The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

Psalm 32:1 Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. **Psalm 32:2** Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile. **Psalm 32:3** When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. **Psalm 32:4** For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah. **Psalm 32:5** I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

Basis of Assurance		
Confirming Work of the Holy Spirit	Finished Work of Christ	Ongoing work of the Father

REVIVAL		
Normal work of God the surprising work of God	Normal work of God The surprising work of God	Surprising work of God ◉
We e & God m (if we follow the formula)	We m & God e	God e & We cannot & must not!

Acts 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. **Acts 2:2** And **suddenly** there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. **Acts 2:3** And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. **Acts 2:4** And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about **three thousand souls**.

Acts 4:4 Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men (ὁ ἀριθμὸς τῶν ἀνδρῶν) was about **five thousand** (ὡσεὶ χιλιάδες πέντε)

Acts 5:14 And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.)

Acts 6:7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Habakkuk 3:2 O LORD, I have heard thy speech, and was afraid: O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 17:16 Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.

Acts 17:17 Therefore disputed he in the synagogue (ἐν τῇ συναγωγῇ) with the Jews (τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις), and with the devout persons (καὶ τοῖς σεβομένοις), and in the market (ἐν τῇ ἀγορᾷ) daily with them that met with him.

Matthew 28:19 Go (Πορευθέντες) ye therefore, and teach (μαθητεύσατε) all nations, baptizing (βαπτίζοντες) them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: **Matthew 28:20** Teaching (διδάσκοντες) them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

2 Timothy 2:2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

2 Thessalonians 3:1 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course (ὁ λόγος τοῦ κυρίου τρέχη), and be glorified, **even as it is with you** (καθὼς καὶ πρὸς ὑμᾶς): **2 Thessalonians 3:2** And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith. **2 Thessalonians 3:3** But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil. **2 Thessalonians 3:4** And we have confidence in the Lord touching you, that ye both do and will do the things which we command you. **2 Thessalonians 3:5** And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ.

Thoughts:

1. Both are

2. Both are t & r in Scripture!

3. We are always en in the normal work of God!

What might this be?

4. Simultaneously, we are constantly s for a surprising work of

God → for God to intervene and show Himself mighty!

Psalms 80:14 Return, we beseech thee, O God of hosts: look down from heaven, and behold, and visit this vine; **Psalms 80:15** And the vineyard which thy right hand hath planted, and the branch that thou madest strong for thyself. **Psalms 80:16** It is burned with fire, it is cut down: they perish at the rebuke of thy countenance.

Psalms 80:17 Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand, upon the son of man whom thou madest strong for thyself. **Psalms 80:18** So will not we go back from thee: quicken us, and we will call upon thy name. **Psalms 80:19** Turn us again, O LORD God of hosts, cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved.

Psalms 85:5 Wilt thou be angry with us for ever? wilt thou draw out thine anger to all generations? **Psalms 85:6** Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee? **Psalms 85:7** Shew us thy mercy, O LORD, and grant us thy salvation.

Psalm 89:46 How long, LORD? wilt thou hide thyself for ever? shall thy wrath burn like fire? **Psalm 89:47** Remember how short my time is: wherefore hast thou made all men in vain? **Psalm 89:48** What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave? Selah. **Psalm 89:49** Lord, where are thy former lovingkindnesses, which thou swarest unto David in thy truth?

5. The 2 works of God differ not so much in k (since both are works of God) but d

6. The surprising work of God is often a (before, during, after) by some rather surprising (strange we might say!) ph

Acts 5:14 And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.)

Acts 5:11 And great **fear** came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things.

Acts 5:12 And by the hands of the apostles were **many** signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon’s porch.

Acts 5:13 And of the rest **durst no man join himself to them:** but the people magnified them.

Acts 12:24 But the word of God grew and multiplied.

Acts 12:1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church.

Acts 12:2 And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

Acts 12:20 And Herod was highly displeased with them of Tyre and Sidon: but they came with one accord to him, and, having made Blastus the king’s chamberlain their friend, desired peace; because their country was nourished by the king’s country. **Acts 12:21** And upon a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat upon his throne, and made an oration unto them. **Acts 12:22** And the people gave a shout, saying, It is the voice of a god, and not of a man. **Acts 12:23** And immediately the angel of the Lord smote him, because he gave not God the glory: and he was eaten of worms, and gave up the ghost.