

# ELECTION

No (real) election	Election <sup>+</sup>	Election alone
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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** (εἶλετο 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 τοῦς 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** (Ἑλλήσιν 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 (εὐγενεῖς), 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 τοὺς ἐκλεκτούς) **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** (καλέσαντος) 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** (σκευὸς 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 (ἡ δὲ ἐκλογή)** 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 ἐκλογήν)**, 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 ἐκλογήν ὑμῶν)** of God.

**2 Peter 1:10** Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your **calling (τὴν κλήσιν)** and **election (καὶ ἐκλογήν)** 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 (ὧ 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	Single predestination	Double Predestination
Symmetrical You choose!	Asymmetrical He chooses and <u>therefore</u> you choose!	Symmetrical He chooses
Treated as unfallen / neutral	Treated as fallen	Treated as created

## **I. Election alone view**

This view, in my experience, is not very common.

**It is probably most common in practice: 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 sacrifice, no going out of my way.

Also no stories of reaching 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 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.

### **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 in Christ**

**This is also called corporate election**

**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 category / box

No one is in the category / box.

You choose to get in the category / box!

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