

1 Thessalonians 1:2 - 6 "We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; (3) Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father; (4) Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God. (5) For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. (6) And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:"

- A. "Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God." This is called The Election of God.
1. **2 Thessalonians 2:13** "But we are bound to give thanks always 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. Look at **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."
 3. **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:"
 4. The election of God here is to salvation, but many things are in God's elective will.
 5. How does one know their election of God? Because God has saved them, salvation itself is the revelation of who is elected and who is not.
- B. So, what is covered under that word election? Just about everything.
1. Let us understand, God has nothing to do with our sinning, in that He does not cause us to sin.
 - a. **James 1:13 - 14** "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: (14) But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed." – While God can cause us from sinning, He will never cause us to sin.
 - b. The Lord explains sin, **James 1:15** "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."
 - c. God warns us not to sin. **James 1:16** "Do not err, my beloved brethren."
 2. However, God controls all that He chooses. For example, if God did not want us to sin, then we would not. God has absolute control at what He elects.

- a. **Ephesians 1:9 - 11** "Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: (10) That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: (11) In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:"
 - b. **Isaiah 46:9 - 11** "Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, (10) Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: (11) Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it."
3. God already knows the path that life takes us. God ordained it, He has total control of His creation.
- a. **Psalms 135:4 - 7** "For the LORD hath chosen Jacob unto himself, and Israel for his peculiar treasure. (5) For I know that the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. (6) Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places. (7) He causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; he maketh lightnings for the rain; he bringeth the wind out of his treasures." - The election of God did not start or stop with Jacob and Israel. God elects all things in His will.
 - b. **Isaiah 40:22 - 23** "It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in: (23) That bringeth the princes to nothing; he maketh the judges of the earth as vanity."
4. There are no accidents or losses with God, God's will is exact.
- a. If God ordains it, if God will's it, who can turn him. **Job 23:13 - 14** "But he is in one mind, and who can turn him? and what his soul desireth, even that he doeth. (14) For he performeth the thing that is appointed for me: and many such things are with him."
 - b. **Job 12:13 - 16** "With him is wisdom and strength, he hath counsel and understanding. (14) Behold, he breaketh down, and it cannot be built again: he shutteth up a man, and there can be no opening. (15) Behold, he withholdeth the waters, and they dry up: also

he sendeth them out, and they overturn the earth. (16) With him is strength and wisdom: the deceived and the deceiver are his."

- C. Election is the eternal choosing of God. Doing as He pleases with His own creation.
 - 1. There is no variableness, nor shadow of turning with God. James 1:17
 - 2. **1 Timothy 1:17** *"Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen."*
 - 3. We must understand that God is perfect, a change of any sort would admit imperfection.
 - 4. God has all everything such as all knowledge, and all power, and all holiness. There is nothing He does not know of able to accomplish from the beginning.
- D. Election is also involved in salvation.
 - 1. Just as God said in Roman 11:4 *"...I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal."* He went on to say in **Romans 11:5 - 6** *"Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace. (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."*
 - 2. Election is God's foreknowledge. **Romans 8:29 - 30** *"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. (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."*
 - 3. **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."*
 - 4. The election of God is real, and it is real in salvation as well as all other parts of our life and works. **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."* And **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:"*