

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE CHOSEN IN CHRIST

Before time began, God chose for salvation those He saw in His “eternal now” to be persuaded to freely accept His grace in Christ Jesus.

1 Peter 1:2 We have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father.

Ephesians 1:4 He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world.

To be chosen in Him means that there is a condition for our receiving salvation. To be “in Him” means that we must exercise faith in order to receive salvation. To be “in Him” means that we must be persuaded to freely accept His grace in Christ Jesus. God uses persuasion but never forces us to believe.

There are no conditions for God giving salvation. God has no conditions upon Him for giving salvation. If there were conditions upon God, that would mean that God changes. But God never changes. God is perfect already.

Religious men have placed conditions upon God giving salvation. These conditions are not found in the Bible. They are inventions of the imagination. They come from pagan views of God.

For example: Pagan views say that God must be appeased of His wrath. Pagan views say that God needs the penalty of sin to be paid.

But God does not need to change in order for Him to save us. There are no conditions for God giving salvation.

The Way of salvation is that God changes the sinner.

How can a man escape God’s wrath toward sin? The man must be changed. He must believe upon Jesus for sin removal, die with Christ to sin, and be born again to righteousness. There is no wrath of God against the righteous. The new position of the saved sinner is “righteous.”

How can a man escape the penalty of sin? The man must become righteous. There is no penalty for righteousness. How does a man become righteous? He must believe upon Jesus for sin removal, die with Christ to sin, and be born again to righteousness. “In Christ” is a new position of righteousness.

There are no conditions for God giving salvation, but there is one condition for our receiving salvation. We must exercise faith in order to receive salvation. “Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved.” “Whosoever will call on the name of the Lord Jesus will be saved.” “Come, take of the water of life freely.”

God has spoken to man and maintained a record of what He said. Four thousand times the Bible declares “God said.”

Hebrews 1:2 God the Father hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son...by whom He also made the worlds.

Jesus is God’s message to us. Jesus is the Word. The testimony that God revealed in the Old Testament through the written and spoken word of the prophets was now fulfilled and made human in Jesus Christ. John 1:14

Jesus is the Creator of all things and by Him all things hold together.

Colossians 1:16,17

By His death, Jesus has authority to remove all sin from creation and reconcile all things to the Father. Colossians 1:20

John 1:29 Jesus takes away the sin of the world.

Through Jesus, man can see God as much as is possible to see Him.

Hebrews 1:3 Jesus is the radiance of God’s glory, the express image (exact representation) of God.

Jesus says that there is one condition for us being chosen for salvation.

WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH IN HIM WILL BE SAVED.

Matthew 23:37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killst the prophet, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

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 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto you, You must be born again.

John 10:9 I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

John 6:29 This is the work of God, that you believe on Him who He hath sent.