

What Is Reformed Theology?

“Doctrines of Grace – Part II: Unconditional Election”

I. Noting the fright and the delight.

A. The delight – predestined to life.

1. All are born away from the presence of God – Genesis 3.

2. Election explains why God moves some from imminent destruction to life.

a. Texts: Deut. 10:14-15, Ps. 33:12; Ps 65:4a, Matt. 22:14;

Luke 18:7; Rom. 8:33; Titus 1:1; II Tim. 1:9; Rev. 13:8

B. The fright – Reprobation: abandoned to their own desires.

1. David Steele

2. Two nagging questions

a. What does this say about the love of God?

b. What does this say about the justice of God?

3. Texts on Reprobation.

a. Prov. 16:4, John 12:39-40; 17:12; Rom 9:10-16,18; (II Thes. 2:13-14 – This is a contrast that refers to the elect.) I Peter 2:8-9; Jude 4

C. Election is ubiquitous in Scripture.

1. Note contrast with the doctrine of the Trinity.

a. E _____ used 8 times in the New Testament.

b. C _____ as referenced to the saved is used over 25 times in the New Testament.

c. The C _____ as a letter address is used 9 times in the New Testament.

II. Key texts on God's Election of us.

A. John 6:37,39

1. Those raised on the last day are true believers.

2. They have been given to Christ by the Father.

3. These are the only ones to come to faith.

4. Salvation is entirely in the hands of the Father.

B. John 15:16

1. Our freewill choice of God comes about as a result of God's choice of us.

a. Hymn of note.

C. Acts 13:48

1. The result of evangelistic preaching is predicated on God's appointment to eternal life.

D. II Thessalonians 2:13

1. God's love brings about election.

E. Ephesians 4:4-5

F. Romans 8:29-30

1. Knew or known – idiom for love (Ps.1:1, Amos 3:2, Gen. 4:1)

Predestined

Called

Justified

Glorified

2. See also I Peter 2:8-9a.

III. Reflection on mystery – delight and fright.

A. What about the justice of God.

1. Romans 9:18-23

B. What about the love of God?

1. How about this – Why did He choose you?

C. In view of God's election of us, how shall we then live?

1. Colossians 3:12-15.