

1 Peter 1:1-2

Intro:

II. Elements of Election

A. Its Condition - vs 1

1. Peter,

- a. self identifies as an apostle of Jesus Christ,
- b. recognized by others as an Apostle
- c. called an apostle to the Jews - Gal 2:7

2. To the pilgrims of the Dispersion

- a. *parepidemos* - an alien alongside, i.e. a resident foreigner:--pilgrim, stranger.
- b. *diaspora* - dispersion, (specially and concretely) the (converted) Israelite resident in Gentile countries:--(which are) scattered (abroad).

i. used twice in NT with the article - Jo 7:35; Jas 1:1

ii. Here used without the article

- could be referring to Jews dispersed in Gentile lands

- could be referring to any Christians spread out in the lands

c. in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,

i. all are provinces of Asia Minor, modern day Turkey

- Pontus - the far north

- Galatia - central

- Cappadocia - eastern portion

- Asia - western portion

- Bithynia - northwestern portion

ii. Had a widespread circulation

B. Its Nature - vs 2a

1. God's sovereign election is one topic that has caused problems for a great number of people throughout history

2. It is taught in the OT as well as the NT

a. The Old Testament teaches God's sovereign choice of Israel as a people

i. that would be His - De 7:6; 14:2

ii. To be holy - Ex 19:5-6; De 26:19; Jer 2:3; Am 3:2;

b. Jesus also taught the principles of Election

i. "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. - Jo 6:44, 65

ii. "I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. - Jo 17:6

iii. "I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. - Jo 17:9, 12

c. The New Testament teaches God's sovereign choice of the Church

i. from before the foundations of the world - Eph 1:4

ii. To be holy and without blame - Eph 1:4

iii. To be adopted as sons - Eph 1:5

iv. To obtain an inheritance being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will - Eph 1:11

v. For His purpose and by His grace - 2 Ti 1:9

3. elect - *eklektos* - select; by implication, favorite:--chosen, elect.

a. out of 23 times in the NT, used 4 times in 1 Peter

b. used of

i. Believers - Mt 24:22,24,31; Mk 13:20,22,27; Ro 8:33; Col 3:12; 2Ti 2:10; Tit 1:1; 1Pe 1:2; 2:9; 2Jo 1:1, 13

ii. Angels - 1 Ti 5:21;

iii. Christ - 1 Pe 2:4, 6

C. Its Source - vs 2b - according to the foreknowledge of God the Father

1. Misunderstood doctrine - some think God looking through time, seeing who would accept Him, chose them

a. this makes man sovereign instead of God - Jo 15:16

b. Gives man undue credit for his salvation or ability to chose - Eph 2:8-9

c. Gives man undue credit for his ability to seek God - Ro 3:8-9

2. **prognosis** - forethought--foreknowledge.

a. refers to God's eternal predetermined loving and saving intention

b. Related verb form used in Ac 2:23 "Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;

i. cannot apply the misunderstood doctrine here

ii. you can see God's predetermined will and man's part in it coming to pass

c. God predetermines to have a relationship with some individuals based not on them or a decision they would make, but according to His eternal plan they receive His redeeming love

D. Its Sphere - vs 2c

1. The outworking of God's choice in eternity past begins in time

2. in sanctification of the Spirit,

a. sanctifying work of the Spirit includes

i. Faith - Eph 2:8-9

ii. Repentance - Ac 11:15-18

iii. Regeneration - Tit 3:5

iv. Adoption - Ro 8:16-17

b. **hagiasmos** - purification, (the state) purity; (by Hebraism) a purifier--holiness, sanctification.

i. refers to separation, consecration, and holiness

ii. Separated from sin, consecrated to God, to becoming holy - 1 Pe 2:9-10

E. Its Effect - vs 2d

1. for obedience

a. a by product of election - Eph 2:10

b. an indication of one having salvation - Ro 1:5; 6:17-16; 1 Jo 2:3-4, 11, 29

2. what Paul saw in the Thessalonians - **1 Th 1:2-10**

F. Its Security - vs 2e

1. profoundly important, practical component of the doctrine of election - security

a. Jo 6:37 "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me ***I will by no means cast out.***

b. Jo 6:39-40 - 2 times

i. "This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that ***of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day.***"

ii. "And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; ***and I will raise him up at the last day.***"

2. and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:

- a. Peter's metaphor looks back to the Old Covenant when blood was sprinkled on the people - Ex 24:3-8 So Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the judgments. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words which the LORD has said we will do." And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD. And he rose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars according to the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he sent young men of the children of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. And Moses took half the blood and put it in basins, and half the blood he sprinkled on the altar. ***Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has said we will do, and be obedient."*** And Moses took the blood, sprinkled it on the people, and said, "This is the blood of the covenant which the LORD has made with you according to all these words."
- b. the New like the Old is a covenant of obedience - the difference is the source of power to obey
- c. we have been spiritually sprinkled with Christ's blood and entered a covenant of obedience
- d. Peter said in Ac 5:31-32 "Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. "And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."

G. Its Advantage - vs 2f

1. the common salutation brings us to the beginning of the letter
 - a. Ro 1:7; 1 Co 1:3; Gal 1:3; Phil 1:2; 2 Th 1:2; Tit 1:4; Rev 1:4
 - b. Peter's uses the salutation to communicate his desire for these people
2. Grace to you and peace be multiplied.
 - a. Grace and the result of that grace, peace
 - b. ***plethuno*** - to increase:--abound, multiply.
 - c. in the operative mood = may be in the fullest measure
3. Advantages
 - a. Election brings humility - to realize that one has been saved without having done or measured up in any way - Jo 1:12-13
 - b. Election is a God exalting, worship enhancing doctrine giving all glory to Him
 - c. Election produces joy b/c without His choosing us
 - i. we would have no hope of salvation - Jo 6:44; Ac 4:12; 1 Ti 2:5-6
 - ii. We would ultimately perish like everyone else - Ro 9:29; Ps 65:4; Lk 10:20
 - d. Election promises an eternity of spiritual privilege
 - i. **Eph 1:3-14**
 - ii. 1Pe 2:9-10 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.
 - e. Election provides incentive for holy living - Col 3:12-13 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.