

# Vintage: Changing Times. Changeless God.

## Week 9: Understanding Election

**Weekly Summary:** Does God choose people to go to heaven? Some people? All people? Why would God ever choose me after all the mess I have made? What about people who don't believe in God? Is their lack of faith God's fault? Romans spends three chapters trying to answer the challenging questions about God's choices.

❖ God chooses to elect.

◆ Ephesians 1:4a - For he chose us in him before the creation of the world.



◆ Romans 11:5-6 - So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace. 6 And if by grace, then it cannot be based on works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.

Ephesians 1:4-6 - For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.



- ❖ People choose to **reject**.



- ◆ Rejection = "I'm good with **sin**."
- ◆ John 3:19 - This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.
- ◆ Rejection = "I'm good without **Him**."
- ◆ Romans 9:31-32 - But the people of Israel, who pursued the law as the way of righteousness, have not attained their goal. 32 Why not? Because they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone.
- ◆ Romans 10:21 - But concerning Israel he says, "All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and obstinate people."
- ◆ Romans 11:11 - Again I ask: Did they stumble so as to fall beyond recovery? Not at all! Rather, because of their transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel envious.

Romans 10:15 - And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

## **Points to Ponder**

1. Agree/Disagree — The teaching of election should make Christians the humblest people on earth.
2. Study 1 Peter 1:1-2. List three things you learn about election from the introduction to Peter's letter.
3. Think of two people you know who don't go to church. How might God use this sermon to encourage you to reach out to invest in, invite, and evangelize them?

## **Homework For Next Week: Romans 12:1-16:27**

*"You did not choose me, but I chose you."*

*~ Jesus*

## **Worship Through Song at The CORE:**

1. "All Things New" - by Nicol Sponberg
2. "Before The Throne Of God Above" - by Shane & Shane
3. "I Will Rise" - by Shane & Shane
4. "Future" - by Desperation Band