



Dear Precious Friend,

July, 2017

Who Are The Elect? Part Two.

The Hebrew and Greek words for “elect” in the Scriptures (בָּחַר/bâchî yr; ἐκλογή/eklogē) are the same as for “chosen,” and it is clear that whenever the elect are mentioned, it is God, not man, who has done the choosing. So it's critical that we understand election in order to love and align with what God chooses, much like Rebecca who aligned with God's choice of Jacob.

The phrase, "elect of God" has been defined by some theologians to refer to a specific predetermined number of people who God foreknew would be redeemed but that everyone else will be damned. This definition of the elect falls so very short of God's full intention and character.

And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac; (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calls;) *Romans 9:10-11*

God does not say here that there is a specific number according to election. What He says is that there is a purpose according to election! God predestines His elect according to His purpose and not according to numbers. Specific numbers may be involved, but the primary thing is purpose. Purpose and election go hand in hand. So then....

Who are the elect of God?

The Bible first speaks of Israel when it speaks of election. This is foundational.

"For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen (*elect*) you to be a people for His own possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. *Deuteronomy 7:6*

"But you, Israel, My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen (*elect*), Descendant of Abraham My friend, You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, And called from its remotest parts And said to you, 'You are My servant, I have chosen you and not rejected you. *Isaiah 41:8-9*

Yeshua is also called God's elect (*chosen*).

Behold my servant, whom I uphold; my elect, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. *Isaiah 42:1*

Yeshua, God's elect, comes on the scene according to His eternal purpose and timing. Israel has already been set to bring Him forth, for salvation comes out from the Jews. Israel and Yeshua are interwoven in God's election purpose.

But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. *Gal. 4:4-5*

Fullness of time is the time appointed by the Father, that moment which God had ordained from the beginning. Fullness of time and purpose converge according to God's election.

The redeemed Gentiles (*the nations*) are also called the elect of God and set in God's timing for a special purpose. Election is always about purpose and timing. Israel, Yeshua and the nations are interwoven and one without the other cannot fulfill God's grand purpose for the ages. When the fullness of the Gentiles comes in, all Israel will be saved!

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who are elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood: May grace and peace be yours in the fullest measure. *1 Peter 1:1-21*

Knowing, brethren beloved (*Thessalonians*), your election of God. For our gospel came not to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as you know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. *1 Thess. 1:4-5*

The scriptures even speak of the elect angels. I charge you before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that you observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality. *1 Timothy 5:21*

The elect angels are those who kept their first estate when the others rebelled alongside Satan, leaving their own habitation and separating themselves from God's predestined purpose. The elect angels have a special role throughout human history as ministering spirits for those who will inherit salvation.

If the Messiah and the angels are called the elect of God, then election cannot simply refer to a select number of those who are chosen for salvation. It cannot refer exclusively to Israel. It cannot mean that the Church or the Gentiles replace Israel as God's elect. In fact, if we follow the thread of scripture, God unveils election as inclusive rather than exclusive, purposeful rather than preferential. Everything is connected in God's purpose and each part is vital to the grand unfolding of His eternal glory.

In fact, God's election works much like a giant puzzle where if we remove one part, we will fail to see the whole picture. When we see in part, we always err. We only see our part. We become preferential. When we look at Christian history, we see this faulty and in part representation of God and His body. God is calling us in these last days to fill in the missing components. Every elected part is vital. Everything in God is connected. It's time to come together in God's election purpose, so that He will be revealed in all of His glory.

Good News from the Bible Lands:

A young Arab-believing couple came from Revive Israel to serve and tour Thessaloniki and other special places. We met a precious Israeli family at the old Berean synagogue. How special for them to hear both Greek and Arab believers witness to their Messiah! Before the father left, he looked me straight in the eye and asked, "Did your life change?" He told me that before he left Israel, a Messianic believer gave him a New Testament, but he was not planning to read it. When I answered that everything changed for the good in every area of my life when I met Yeshua, he promised to read the book as soon as he returned to the land.

Israelis continue to flood Berea, Thessaloniki and other parts of Greece daily. There is a tremendous opportunity to share the gospel more openly than in the land. Please pray that Israelis traveling to the New Covenant cities of Greece, would see and receive Yeshua as they did in the Book of Acts.

We will be starting a special monthly prayer meeting in September for pastors and others who desire to intercede for the establishment of the Jewish-Greek Bridge. This is a big step. Please pray. A couple invited me to visit a family at their home in northern Greece. After sharing the gospel, the grandmother prayed to receive the Lord and took a Bible. Her granddaughter and her boyfriend also responded by taking Bibles. To the Jew first and also to the Greek! Pray for more fruit!

Dear friend, thank you for standing with me in prayer and financial support. As we fellowship and co-labor as the elect of God, we will together advance His Kingdom and glorify our Lord! Be so very blessed in Yeshua!

In His Love and Purpose,

Greta