

29 April 2012 - Preached by Preacher Joseph Poon

Message Topic: **Doctrine of Election & Predestination**

Scripture Text: Ephesians 1: 1-6

1. We are not the one who chose God, but God had already predestinated and chosen us first even before we were created. Having a proper biblical understanding of election and predestination will enable us to have a proper Christian walk. If not, man will form God in their own mind to what they want God to be and interpreting Scriptures in the way they think is fair to humans and logical in their own opinions.

2. Ephesians 1:1-6 is one of the longest sentence about election in the Bible. There is a plan and a purpose for it as stated in the Word of God.

3. What is election and predestination?

Verse 4 "chosen" is an action of God. It can be choosing a group to fulfill a certain purpose (eg. Israel), choosing individuals (eg. priest and prophets) or even the choosing of the elect.

Verse 5 "having predestinated us" is about when this action of choosing happened. Election happened before the world was formed, and God has already predestinated it.

In 1 Peter 1:2, the word "Foreknowledge" is used. Peter was chosen by God's sovereign will by the foreknowledge of God through sanctification.

Election and predestination comes about by both inward and outward calling.

4. Who gets called?

John 6:65 tells us that no man can come to God unless God the Father draws him. Hence, only the elect are called and only they will respond. We have no part to play in coming to Jesus Christ. We will only keep running away while God chases us. When we finally understand this doctrine, it will cause us to praise God for marvelously saving us. We won't be thinking that God is unfair in only choosing some to be saved.

5. If God has chosen the elect already, then what is the purpose of going for evangelism? The doctrine of election and predestination is the reason why evangelism is worthwhile. It is not for us to know who is the elect, but evangelism is our privilege because God allows us to be the sower of the Gospel seed whom He has elected already.

6. What is the purpose of election and predestination?

Verse 4 tells us the answer that "we should be holy and without blame before him in love."

Romans 8:29 "to be conformed to the image of his son." God wants us to be holy and to reflect His glory. This is the purpose of the plan of God. It ought to cause us to have humble gratefulness to God. That is what doctrines should do which is to change our lives.