

# Notes for: Divine Election: Cause or Effect?

## 1. Introduction

- >> 2 Timothy 2:15 demands that we deal with this difficult doctrine
- >> Deuteronomy 29:29 is both a warning and encouragement
- >> No Sergeant Schultz Syndrome allowed!

## 2. Cause or Effect?

- >> Galatians 6:7; a foundational principle by which God governs His moral universe
- >> Cause and effect can simplify our understanding of this difficult and complicated doctrine
- >> John 6:65; Acts 13:48; Romans 9:16; Galatians 4:8-9; 2 Thessalonians 2:13

## 3. Equal Opportunity Offer

- >> 2 Peter 3:9; God's desire for everyone
- >> 1 Timothy 2:3-6; evidenced in Christ's death for all
- >> The misunderstanding of incompatibility

## 4. Redemption Accomplished/Redemption Applied

- >> John 16:7; the Spirit's ministry as an absolute must
- >> Ephesians 2:1-3, Romans 3:9-11; the obstacle of our sin
- >> Acts 1:8; our responsibility

## 5. Free Will?

- >> Adam's will; before and after
- >> Romans 8:5-8, John 8:34; robots or slaves?
- >> Saving faith; God's gift: Romans 8:8; Hebrews 11:6; Ephesians 2:8

## 6. The Deafening Silence

- >> No one and everyone; the positive and negative response to the offer
- >> Adam's legacy repeating itself in each of us
- >> Creates the necessity of Divine Election as Divine Intervention

## 6(b). The Follow-up

- >> Words matter; distinctions with a difference: 1 Thessalonians 1:5
- >> Authors of the Greek NT and their use of words is significant
- >> Conflation may be convenient; but it creates confusion

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### 7. A Seven Step Comparison

- >> 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Peter 1:1-2
- >> Separated from our unbelief unto faith in Christ
- >> God doesn't "force" us, He "enables" us

### 8. Two Kinds of "Calls"

- >> The General Call given to all: Acts 17:30; 1 Corinthians 1:18-23
- >> The Effectual Call given to God's chosen: 1 Corinthians 1:24-31
- >> The effectual successfully overcomes the universal failure of the general

### 9. Foreknow/Foresee

- >> Galatians 3:8
- >> What God really knew all along about all of us
- >> Analogy of a marathon race

### 10(a). The Interaction of God's Mercy and Justice

- >> Paul's answer to God's choice of Jacob over Esau; Romans 9:11
- >> God is sovereign in exercising His mercy; Romans 9:15
- >> Pharaoh was deserving of God's justice; Romans 9:17-18

### 10(b). The Potter and His Clay

- >> Vessels of wrath preparing themselves for destruction; Romans 9:22
- >> Vessels of mercy prepared by God for glory; Romans 9:23
- >> Why? God doesn't want heaven half empty; angels only

### 11. Election and Evangelism

- >> Paul's motivation; 2 Timothy 2:10
- >> Christ's encouragement; Acts 18:9-10
- >> Our motivation and encouragement; Matthew 28:18-20

### 12. "I DID IT!"

- >> No, you didn't!
- >> Why are so many vessels of mercy "bothered" by Divine Election?
- >> **Amazing Grace: how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me;  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see!**