

Lesson Seven

Applying Our Election to Life

Predestination, pp. 95-112

Our comfort in times of trial

John 10:27-30

- How does our election guarantee that our God is always watching over us and protecting us?

Romans 8:31,32

- Discuss: Do we question if we are among the elect when troubles descend on our homes and families or when we find ourselves in the fires of affliction? Of what do Paul's words to God's elect assure us?

Predestination leads to a life of service to God

Galatians 2:20

- How does Saint Paul, as one of God's elect, want to live his life?

Predestination opposes modern-day synergism

John 15:16

- Synergism is the false teaching that man works along with or cooperates with God in his conversion and salvation. Give some examples of modern-day synergism.
- How does the doctrine of election combat any kind of synergism—whether overt or camouflaged?

Predestination's bearing on mission work

Matthew 28:19,20

- How could a faulty understanding of the doctrine of election affect the way people go about doing mission work?

Isaiah 55:10,11.

1 Corinthians 3:7

- As we spread the Word of God to others, what should we consider to be our responsibility? What part of the task must we leave to God?

1 Peter 2:9

- Christians are special people who do special work. How is this a fitting expression for Christians who are called to declare God's praises in this darkened world?

Summary

The doctrine of predestination is not a theory but rather a comforting teaching from God's holy Word meant to be practical for the lives of Christians. It constantly and consistently draws the individual to Christ's cross and gives him or her eternal hope. It guards against false teachings that would rob us of God's grace. This doctrine also motivates us to do mission work, for we are convinced that God continues to gather in his chosen ones by using fellow Christians to proclaim his saving Word.