

## Chosen By God Pt. 2. **John 15:16**

John 15:16 (NKJV)

<sup>16</sup> You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

### **Introduction**

Today we turn our attention back to this wonderful truth that our Lord says in John 15:16.

“You did not choose Me, but I chose you.”

As I said last Sunday...This is very clear, unambiguous. To make it abundantly clear, He says in a negative and a positive way.

Negative, You did not choose Me

Positive, But I chose you.

A couple of grammatical notes:

**ουχ** υμεις με εξελεξασθε **αλλ** εγω  
**εξελεξαμην** υμας

**ουχ** “not” is stated first for emphasis

**αλλ** “but”

235 *allá* (typically a strong adversative conjunction) – but (but instead), nevertheless, on the contrary So many churches today emphasize the choice man makes to be saved.

**εγω εξελεξαμην** -emphatic “I”

**εξελεξαμην**

1586 *eklégomai* (from [1537](#) /ek, "out of" and [3004](#) / légō, "speaking to a conclusion") – properly, to select (choose) out of, by a highly deliberate choice (i.e. real heart-preference) with a definite outcome (as with the destination of divine selection for salvation).

So many pastors and churches today emphasize the choice man makes to be saved.

And no doubt, to be fair, it is clear also from scripture that all are commanded to choose Christ.

Deuteronomy 30:19 (NKJV)

<sup>19</sup> I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;

Joshua 24:15 (NKJV)

<sup>15</sup> And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve,

whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

1 Kings 18:21 (NKJV)

<sup>21</sup> And Elijah came to all the people, and said, “How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord *is* God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him.” But the people answered him not a word.

Matthew 7:13 (NKJV)

<sup>13</sup> “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.

There are hundreds of commands given in scripture that require you to make a choice. There must be movement of your will in one direction or the other.

These choices you make will affect your eternal destiny. The choices you make are your choices and you are 100% responsible for them.

Yet it is vitally important that you understand that your choice is not the only choice involved here.

God makes choices. He has a will. And all of mankind is affected by the choices He makes.

It is God who chose to create the universe

It is God who chose to create angels

It is God who chose to create man

It is God who chose to create the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

It is God who chose to ordain the existence of evil

It is God who chose to judge the world with a flood.

It is God who chose to send His Son Jesus Christ to save sinners

It is God who chose to have 12 Apostles

It is God who chose to have 66 books in our Bible

It is God who chose to create hell.

It is God who chose to make hell eternal.

So with all the emphasis today on man's choices I want to declare emphatically that

**God makes Choices**

## **The Fact of God's Choice**

God chose Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, Solomon, Daniel, Ezekiel, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and All the Major and minor Prophets

Exodus 3:1 (NKJV)

**3** Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian...”

**2** And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush...”

**10** Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”

Jeremiah 1:4–5 (NKJV)

**4** Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying:

**5** “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;  
Before you were born I sanctified you;  
I ordained you a prophet to the nations.”

## Israel

Deuteronomy 7:6–8 (NKJV)

**6** “...the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself.... **7** The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; **8** but because the Lord loves you...”

Psalm 135:4 (NKJV)

4 For the **Lord has chosen** Jacob for Himself,  
Israel for His special treasure.

Isaiah 41:8–9 (NKJV)

8 “But you, Israel, *are* My servant,  
Jacob whom **I have chosen**....,

9 **...I have chosen you** and have not cast you  
away:”

Matthew 11:25–27 (NKJV)

<sup>25</sup> ...Jesus answered and said, “I thank You,  
Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that **You have  
hidden these things from *the* wise and prudent  
and have revealed them to babes...**<sup>27</sup> ...and no one  
knows the Son except the Father. **Nor does anyone  
know the Father except the Son, and *the one to  
whom the Son wills to reveal Him.***

Matthew 24:22 (NKJV)

<sup>22</sup> And unless those days were shortened, no flesh  
would be saved; but **for the elect’s sake** those days  
will be shortened.

Matthew 24:24 (NKJV)

<sup>24</sup> For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

Matthew 24:31 (NKJV)

<sup>31</sup> And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Romans 8:33 (NKJV)

<sup>33</sup> Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies.

Ephesians 1:4 (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup> just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,

Colossians 3:12 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;

1 Thessalonians 1:4 (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup> knowing, beloved brethren, **your election by God.**

2 Thessalonians 2:13 (NKJV)

<sup>13</sup> But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because **God from the beginning chose you for salvation** through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,

2 Timothy 2:10 (NKJV)

<sup>10</sup> Therefore I endure all things **for the sake of the elect**, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

Titus 1:1–2 (NKJV)

**1** Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of **God's elect** ...  
<sup>2</sup> in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,

James 2:5 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup>... **Has God not chosen the poor of this world** *to be* rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?



1 Peter 1:2 (NKJV)

<sup>2</sup> **elect according to the foreknowledge of God** the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:

1 Peter 2:9–10 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> But **you are a chosen generation**, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; <sup>10</sup> who once *were* not a people but *are* now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

2 Timothy 1:9 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> who has **saved us and called us with a holy calling**, not according to our works, but **according to His own purpose and grace** which was given to us in Christ Jesus **before time began**,

Romans 9:11–13 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> (for *the children* not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the **purpose of God according to election** might stand, not of works but of Him who calls), <sup>12</sup> it was said to her, “*The older shall serve the younger.*” <sup>13</sup> As it is written, “**Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated.**”

Romans 8:29–30 (NKJV)

<sup>29</sup> For whom He foreknew, He also **predestined** to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. <sup>30</sup> Moreover whom He **predestined**, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Ephesians 1:5 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> having **predestined** us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

John 6:37 (NKJV)

<sup>37</sup> “**All that the Father gives Me** will come to Me,...”

John 6:39 (NKJV)

<sup>39</sup> “**This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me** I should lose nothing,...”

John 17:2 (NKJV)

2 “...**You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him.”**

John 17:6 (NKJV)

6 “**I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me,...”**

John 17:9 (NKJV)

9 “**I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours.”**

John 17:11 (NKJV)

11 ...”**Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me,...”**

John 10:16 (NKJV)

16 And **other sheep I have** which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and **they will hear My voice;** and **there will be one flock** *and* one shepherd.

Acts 13:48 (NKJV)

<sup>48</sup> Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And **as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.**

Revelation 17:8 (NKJV)

<sup>8</sup> The beast that you saw...will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, **whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world,**

Acts 22:14 (NKJV)

<sup>14</sup> Then he (Ananias) said (to Saul/ Paul), 'The **God** of our fathers **has chosen you** that you should know His will, and see the Just One, and hear the voice of His mouth.

It is not debatable at all that God is the one making the choice. The choice was made by God before the foundation of the world, long before you every existed. You were not around to give any input or voice your opinion or to persuade God to choose you.

**A couple of notes about this choice**

1. He chose you before you were born

2. He chose you sovereignly, according to His will,
3. He chose you not based on your works or faith.
4. He chose you for His purpose and Pleasure.

## 1. He chose you **BEFORE** you were born

**Ephesians 1:4 (NKJV)**

<sup>4</sup> just as He chose us in Him **before the foundation of the world**,

**2 Thessalonians 2:13 (NKJV)**

<sup>13</sup> "... **God from the beginning chose you for salvation** through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,"

## 2. He chose you **sovereignly**, according to **His will**,

**Ephesians 1:5 (NKJV)**

<sup>5</sup> having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

**Romans 9:15–16 (NKJV)**

<sup>15</sup> For He says to Moses, "*I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have*

*compassion on whomever I will have compassion.”*

<sup>16</sup> So then *it is* not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy.

3. He chose you **NOT** based on your works or faith.

### Not Works

Romans 9:11 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> (for *the children* not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls),

Ephesians 2:8–9 (NKJV)

<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not of works, lest anyone should boast.

### Not Faith

Some say that God did choose but it was based on his foreknowledge of our faith.

i.e. He looked down time and saw that you would choose Him and believe in Him and so in response He chose you.

**Reasons this is not correct.**

1. This would make Grace meaningless. Salvation is unmerited. This view would make God save you because YOU did something.
2. It ignores that fact that Man is unwilling to respond to the Gospel.
3. It ignores the fact that faith and repentance are gifts of God, not what man produces.
4. It ignores the Biblical meaning of the word “foreknowledge”

1 Peter 1:2 (NKJV)

<sup>2</sup> elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:

Romans 8:29 (NKJV)

<sup>29</sup> For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

**proginóskó: to know beforehand**

**Original Word:** προγινώσκω

**Part of Speech:** Verb

**Transliteration:** proginóskó

**Phonetic Spelling:** (prog-in-ocē'-ko)

**Definition:** to know beforehand

**Usage:** I know beforehand, foreknow.

Romans 8:29 (NKJV)

<sup>29</sup> For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be conformed to the image of His Son*, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Genesis 4:1 (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup> “Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain,…”

Amos 3:2 (NKJV)

<sup>2</sup> “You only have I known of all the families of the earth;  
Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.”

Jeremiah 1:5 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;  
Before you were born I sanctified you;  
I ordained you a prophet to the nations.”

Matthew 7:23 (NKJV)

<sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’



The Foreknowledge in these text are best understood as for-loved or loved before.

1 John 4:19 (NKJV)

<sup>19</sup> We love Him because He first loved us.

Ephesians 1:4 (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup> just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,

#### 4. He chose you for His purpose and Pleasure.

Ephesians 1:5–6 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, **according to the good pleasure** of His will, <sup>6</sup> **to the praise of the glory of His grace**, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

Ephesians 1:9 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> having made known to us the mystery of His will, **according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself**,

Ephesians 1:11–12 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, **being predestined according to the purpose of Him** who works all things according to the **counsel of His will**, <sup>12</sup> that we who first trusted in Christ should be **to the praise of His glory**.

The Fact that God chose to save some means he did not choose others.

He did not choose everybody. Everybody will not go to Heaven.

John 6:37 (NKJV)

<sup>37</sup> **All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.**

When people hear this for the first time, often the response is **that that is not fair**

Its not fair for God to choose some and not others.

But this is exactly the argument that Paul anticipates in Romans 9

In fact, a test as to whether you are presenting the Biblical view of Election correctly means you would get the exact response Paul anticipates in Romans 9

### **That is not Fair.**

Romans 9:11–18 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> (for *the children* not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls), <sup>12</sup> it was said to her, “*The older shall serve the younger.*” <sup>13</sup> As it is written, “*Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated.*”

<sup>14</sup> What shall we say then? *Is there* unrighteousness with God? Certainly not! <sup>15</sup> For He says to Moses, “*I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.*” <sup>16</sup> So then *it is* not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy.

<sup>17</sup> For the Scripture says to the Pharaoh, “*For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth.*” <sup>18</sup> Therefore **He has mercy**

**on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens.**

That fact that someone would raise the argument that

God is unfair or unjust

means they do not understand the first point we made.

## **I. Being Chosen by God Necessitates Understanding Your Condition**

You are a sinner, that has broken the Law of God Millions of times. (not hyperbole)

### **1 Corinthians 10:31 (NKJV)**

<sup>31</sup> Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

### Romans 14:23 (NKJV)

<sup>23</sup> "...for whatever *is* not from faith is sin."

**We and our sin are described in Scripture as**

**Sinners, lawbreakers, transgressor, foolish, Abominable, Perverted, unclean, worthy of death, blasphemous, Unruly, Loathsome, polluted, Unthankful, unholy, unrighteous, ungodly, filthy rags,**

iniquity, wickedness, idolaters, hateful, unmerciful, unloving, envious, greedy, covetous, divisive, destructive, corrupt, evil, violent, Slave to sin, Hating the light, lover of darkness, damning, dominating, Liars, antichrist, deceitful, prideful, murderers, lustful, adulterers, arrogant sensual, lovers of self, wicked, woeful, reprobate, rebellious, unforgiving, earthly minded, poison,  
non seeking, God hating, children of the devil

Arthur Pink wrote,

It is the bursting forth of that pride and the self-will that resents restraint, that repudiates control, that refuses to be under authority, that resists rule.

Sin, then, is an inward state that precedes the evil deeds. It is a state of heart that refuses to be in subjection to God. It is a casting off the divine Law and setting up self-will and self-pleasing in its stead.

William Plumer wrote,

Tell me what you think of sin, and I will tell you what you think of God, of Christ, of the Spirit, of the divine Law, of the blessed gospel, and of all necessary truth. He who looks upon sin merely as a fiction, as a

misfortune, or as a trifle sees no necessity either for deep repentance or a great atonement.

John Bunyan near death said, “No sin against God can be little because it is against the great God of heaven and earth; but if the sinner can find out a little God, it may be easy to find out little sins.”

John Owen says, “He that hath slight thoughts of sin, never had great thoughts of God.”

Luther said, “From the error of not knowing or understanding what sin is, there necessarily arises another error—that people cannot know or understand what grace is.”

The Westminster Assembly says, “Every sin, even the least, being against the sovereignty, goodness, and holiness of God and against His righteous law, deserveth His wrath and curse, both in this life and that which is to come, and cannot be expiated<sup>16</sup> but by the blood of Christ.”

Paul says, “The wages of sin is death” (Rom 6:23).

Chrysostom says, “There is in human affairs nothing that is truly terrific<sup>18</sup> but sin. In all things else, in poverty, in sickness, in disgrace, and in death (which

is held to be the greatest of all evils), there is nothing that is really dreadful. With the wise man, they are all empty names. But to offend God, to do what He disapproves, this is real evil.”

Because of our sin, God has done no wrong if he does not save anyone. His justice demands that sin be punished and that sinners be condemned to Hell forever.

No wrong has been done if God saves none.

But Great Mercy has been shown if He saves any.

Election puts no one in hell

But Election puts an innumerable host of people in Heaven that would not have been there otherwise

In Heaven we have no reason to Boast

In Hell we only have ourselves to blame.

Some say,

Why doesn't God save everyone?

Why does He have only one way to be saved.

But those are all wrong questions

The real question is...

WHY does he save anyone!!!!?????

## **The second objection Paul anticipates is**

How can I be held responsible, if I had no choice in the matter.

### **Romans 9:18–19 (NKJV)**

<sup>18</sup> Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens.

<sup>19</sup> You will say to me then, “Why does He still find fault? For who has resisted His will?”

The answer to this is simple.

YOU are guilty.

1 million times over. You are a repeat offender who loves to repeat his sin. You deserve no mercy, only hell. He owes you nothing. Not even an opportunity to hear the Gospel.

If you believe God has done you wrong.

Then you clearly think too lowly of your sin and too highly of yourself.

This was clearly expressed in our 2nd point.



## II. Being Chosen by God Necessitates Understanding Your Culpability

Romans 3:23 (NKJV)

<sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 3:19 (NKJV)

<sup>19</sup> Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

Romans 2:1 (NKJV)

**2** Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.

But there is one more point that must be understood.

### III. Being Chosen by God Necessitates Understanding Your Capability

that fact that you have no capability to save yourself

You have no ability to believe

to repent

to submit

Had God not decided to save you by choosing to save you, you would never be saved.

And you would not care either, and would eagerly run as far away from God as you can get.

There is nothing in man that has any desire for God whatsoever.

When man is confronted with the reality of God's existence, just in the evidence of creation, Men don't run toward God, don't desire God, they don't want anything to do with God. They actively suppress the truth of God and His existence.

#### **Romans 1:18 (NKJV)**

<sup>18</sup> For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, **who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,**

Even in Hell, men will not repent, even though there is no doubt and no denial of the existence of God. Yet, they will continue in rebellion and hatred of God

Even under the most extreme expression of God's wrath man will not repent and will Blaspheme His name.

### **Revelation 16:5–9 (NKJV)**

<sup>5</sup> And I heard the angel of the waters saying:

“You are righteous, O Lord,  
The One who is and who was and who is to be,  
Because You have judged these things.

<sup>6</sup> For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets,  
And You have given them blood to drink.  
For it is their just due.”

<sup>7</sup> And I heard another from the altar saying, “Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous *are* Your judgments.”

<sup>8</sup> Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. <sup>9</sup> And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power

over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.

## What is it that makes man like this?

Ephesians 2:1–3 (NKJV)

**2** And you *He made alive*, who were **dead in trespasses and sins**, <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, <sup>3</sup> among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

So many debate the meaning of dead in sin  
But just like understanding the statements about sin that God makes, it requires seeing how God reacts to sin to understand this.

SO if you want to understand what dead in sin is, look at what is require to get to you to Christ.

## 1st OUR CONDITION

### Romans 6:17–18 (NKJV)

<sup>17</sup> But God be thanked that *though* you were **slaves of sin**, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. <sup>18</sup> And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

### Romans 8:7–8 (NKJV)

<sup>7</sup> Because the **carnal mind is enmity against God**; for it is **not subject to the law of God**, nor indeed can be. <sup>8</sup> So then, those who are in the flesh **cannot please God**.

### Jeremiah 13:23 (NKJV)

<sup>23</sup> **Can** the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard its spots?  
*Then* may you also do good who are accustomed to do evil.

### Matthew 12:34 (NKJV)

<sup>34</sup> **Brood of vipers!** **How can you, being evil, speak good things?** For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

1 Corinthians 2:14 (NKJV)

<sup>14</sup> But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

Romans 3:11 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> *There is none who understands;  
There is none who seeks after God.*

John 8:43 (NKJV)

<sup>43</sup> *Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word.*

John 6:44 (NKJV)

<sup>44</sup> *No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.*

John 6:64–65 (NKJV)

<sup>64</sup> *But there are some of you who do not believe.”*  
For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him.  
<sup>65</sup> *And He said, “Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father.”*

C. H. Spurgeon put it this way: "Through the fall, and through our own sin, the nature of man has become so debased, and depraved, and corrupt, that it is impossible for him to come to Christ without the assistance of God the Holy Spirit. Spirit." Sermon, Human Inability, March 7, 1858

So many today believe in the notion of free will. What is meant by this is that men have the ability thru self determination to choose Christ.

Most are willing to admit that there needs to be some work of the Holy Spirit but ultimately the credit goes to the freedom of the will.

This has been a confusing point for many so let me see if I can help.

**First**, what often happens is that we observe that we make choices every day. We choose what to eat, we choose where we want to go, we choose who we will marry, what job we want, how many children we want, what church we will go to, what clothes we want to wear.

Then we extrapolate from this that we have the same ability with God. That we can choose God when we want to. That its not that we don't have the

ability to choose but that we just don't understand the need to or maybe we just don't want to right now.

### **Here are some points to keep in mind.**

1. We can and do make choices, we have volition
  2. But our choices are not free. Every choice is influenced "you are free to choose but your choice is not free"
  3. We can't choose anything beyond our Nature. We may choose to fly like a bird but our Nature says no.
  4. Our Nature hates God, does not seek God and Loves sin, therefore we have no will to go to God. No want to, no desire for God.
  5. Our wills are enslaved to sin. Our master is our own sinful passion. It is impossible for our wills to
  6. The bondage of our will bound by our desires We can't come to Christ because we don't want to come to Christ
- We can't submit to the Law of God because we don't want to submit to the Law of God

Another way of saying is this

Our will is the expression of our desires and affections,



Our desires and affections are the expression of our Nature.

Charles Spurgeon rightly Preached,

“Now, the reason why man cannot come to Christ, is not because he cannot come, so far as his body or his mere power of mind is concerned, but because his nature is so corrupt that he has neither the will nor the power to come to Christ unless drawn by the Spirit.”

Sermon, Human Inability, March 7, 1858

Now some have said that it would not be right for God to hold us responsible for something we cannot do.

But frankly put. The Bible makes it clear that you are held accountable, YOU are responsible. You are the reason for your sin..

But I believe the Bible clarifies why it can state that “No one can come to me unless the Father draw him”

and yet, hold that same man responsible for not coming.

The solution lies in what Jonathan Edwards said in distinguishing between.

Physical inability  
and

## Moral inability

You are not physically unable to come to Christ. You have a mind, and a will,

But

You are morally unable to come to Christ because you love your sin so much.

If you are in a comfortable chair, and I chain you to the chair and bind you in such a way that you cannot move, and then command you to get up.

That would be unjust.

BUT

If you are unchained in the chair but you really love sitting in the chair, more than you do standing up.

You love it so much that, when you are commanded to get up, You say no, because you love the chair.

You are physically free to move, but you are morally restrained by your one love.

This is exactly what Jesus meant when he said.

John 3:19–20 (NKJV)

<sup>19</sup> And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

Proverbs 1:29 (NKJV)

<sup>29</sup> Because they hated knowledge  
And did not choose the fear of the Lord,

Rightly did G. H. Bishop of the Dutch Reformed Church say:

Man can no more turn to God than the dead can sit up in their coffins. He can no more originate a right desire than he can create a universe. God the Holy Spirit alone, by sovereign, special interference, calls dead sinners to life and creates within them "the desires of their hearts"—the first faint fluttering of a breath toward holiness.

Man, by nature, does not want to know God. "There is no one who seeks after God," as the above Scripture says. As Dr. Michael Horton noted, "We cannot find God for the same reason that a thief can't find a police officer."

So we are

Dead to God, slaves of sin, hostile to God, unable to obey the law, unable to change our condition,

accustomed to doing evil, unable to speak what is good, unable to receive the things of God, unable to come to Christ, unable to understand God's Word.

We love our sin, We love darkness, We love our wickedness,

So apart from Gods Electing, saving Grace, no one would turn, no one would forsake his sin, No one would believe.

And Can It Be, That I Should Gain?

Author: Charles Wesley (1738)

4 Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray,  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
My chains fell off, my heart was free;  
I rose, went forth and followed Thee.

“What good could God possibly foresee in hearts that are dead in transgressions and sins and inclined only to evil all the time? What good could God anticipate in people who cannot come to him and do not even seek him unless he first draws them to himself. If that is the situation, as the Bible says it is, then the only way any man or woman can be saved is by the sovereign election of God by which he first chooses some for salvation and then leads them to faith” (p. 16-17).

James Montgomery Boice, [Ephesians \(Grand Rapids: Baker, 1997\)](#).

