

**Sermon Outline**  
**Rev. Dr. Edd Cathey**  
**Believing and the Backstory of Believing**  
**August 21, 2016**

**Sermon Text:** John 10:22-42

The Historical Setting (Daniel 11 and 1 Maccabees)

(See next page for text of 1 Maccabees 1:41-63)

The Immediate Setting v. 22-23

The Challenge of Faith v. 24-25

Natural Condition: Total Depravity v. 26

Jeremiah 10, 17:9; Titus 1:16; Ecclesiastes 9:3; Romans 1:21-23; Ephesians 4:17-18;  
Matthew 15:18-19; Genesis 6:5

Sovereign Grace of Election v. 27-38

Ps 82:6-7

Two Responses v. 39-42

Article 17 Of Predestination and Election (from the 39 Articles of Religion of the Church of England)

## **1 Maccabees 1:41-63**

Moreover king Antiochus wrote to his whole kingdom, that all should be one people, and everyone should leave his laws: so all the heathen agreed according to the commandment of the king.

Yea, many also of the Israelites consented to his religion, and sacrificed unto idols, and profaned the Sabbath. For the king had sent letters by messengers unto Jerusalem and the cities of Judah that they should follow the strange laws of the land, forbid burnt offerings and sacrifice and drink offerings in the temple; and that they should profane the Sabbaths and festival days and pollute the sanctuary and holy people, set up altars, and groves, and chapels of idols, and sacrifice swine's flesh, and unclean beasts, that they should also leave their children uncircumcised, and make their souls abominable with all manner of uncleanness and profanation to the end they might forget the law, and change all the ordinances and whosoever would not do according to the commandment of the king, he said, he should die.

## **ARTICLE XVII. OF PREDESTINATION AND ELECTION**

PREDESTINATION to Life is the everlasting purpose of God, whereby (before the foundations of the world were laid) he hath constantly decreed by his counsel secret to us, to deliver from curse and damnation those whom he hath chosen in Christ out of mankind, and to bring them by Christ to everlasting salvation, as vessels made to honour. Wherefore, they which be endued with so excellent a benefit of God be called according to God's purpose by his Spirit working in due season: they through Grace obey the calling: they be justified freely: they be made sons of God by adoption: they be made like the image of his only-begotten Son Jesus Christ: they walk religiously in good works, and at length, by God's mercy, they attain to everlasting felicity.

As the godly consideration of Predestination, and our Election in Christ, is full of sweet, pleasant, and unspeakable comfort to godly persons, and such as feel in themselves the working of the Spirit of Christ, mortifying the works of the flesh, and their earthly members, and drawing up their mind to high and heavenly things, as well because it doth greatly establish and confirm their faith of eternal Salvation to be enjoyed through Christ, as because it doth fervently kindle their love towards God: So, for curious and carnal persons, lacking the Spirit of Christ, to have continually before their eyes the sentence of God's Predestination, is a most dangerous downfall, whereby the Devil doth thrust them either into desperation, or into wretchedness of most unclean living, no less perilous than desperation.

Furthermore, we must receive God's promises in such wise, as they be generally set forth to us in holy Scripture: and, in our doings, that Will of God is to be followed, which we have expressly declared unto us in the Word of God.