

## **Election**

We teach that election is the act of God by which, before the foundation of the world, He chose in Christ those whom He graciously regenerates, saves, and sanctifies. (Romans 8:28-30; Ephesians 1:4-11; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 2:10; 1 Peter 1:1-2)

We teach that sovereign election does not contradict or negate the responsibility of every individual to repent and trust Christ as Savior and Lord. Nor does sovereign election negate the responsibility of Christians to proclaim the Gospel to all peoples since no one is saved apart from the Gospel. All whom the Father calls to Himself will come in faith, and all who come in faith the Father will receive. (Ezekiel 18:23, 32; 33:11; John 3:18-19, 36; 5:40; 6:37-40, 44; Acts 13:48; Romans 9:22-23; 10; 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12; James 4:8; Revelation 22:17)

We teach that the unmerited favor that God grants to sinners is not related to any initiative of their own or to God's anticipation of what they might do on their own, but is solely of His sovereign grace and mercy. (Ephesians 1:4-7; Titus 3:4-7; 1 Peter 1:2)

We teach that election should not be looked upon as based merely on abstract sovereignty. God is truly sovereign, but He exercises this sovereignty in harmony with His other attributes, especially His omniscience, justice, holiness, wisdom, grace, and love. This sovereignty will always exalt the will of God in a manner totally consistent with His character as revealed in the life of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Scriptures. (Matthew 11:25-28; Romans 9:11-16; 2 Timothy 1:9)