

MYSTERY

DISCOVERING WHO GOD HAS CALLED US TO BE

Who Is the Elect? Part 1

SUMMARY:

The word *'elect'* means to choose or select. It is a deeply Jewish word that described the nation of Israel as the means by which God would reach the Gentiles (Deuteronomy 7:6). In the Old and New Testaments, all those who trust God by faith are His elect, or chosen, in Christ. Additionally, the term *elect* or *chosen* means that those who trust in God through the Lord Jesus, by God the Holy Spirit's power, now participate in God's ministry and mission.

Jesus was eternally elected or chosen by the Father to redeem the world through His redemptive ministry and mission. We see this in Luke 9:

Then a voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, the Chosen One; listen to Him!" Luke 9:35 CSB

In Ephesians 1:3-7, we learn that we are *chosen in Christ*. Therefore, by faith, we are eternally united to Christ and all that is true of Him is true of those who trust in Jesus as their Savior. We have every spiritual blessing in Christ: chosen, adopted as God's children, accepted, redeemed, forgiven of sins, wisdom, the inheritance of an eternal home in God, and the sealing of the Holy Spirit. We are also God's ambassadors, His co-laborers, bringing the message of reconciliation to every nation, tribe, and tongue.

QUESTIONS:

Upward

Read Luke 9:35. What does God mean when He says that Jesus is the Chosen One? Why is this significant?

Read Ephesians 1:3-7. Why did God choose us, in Jesus, to be adopted into His family? How do you think God feels about you?

Inward

When you read the words used to describe us in Ephesians 1:3-7 (blessed, chosen, holy, blameless, adopted, redeemed), what comes to mind? Is it challenging for you to embrace these truths?

Loving ourselves correctly means viewing ourselves the way God sees us. How can you practice seeing yourself the way God sees you?

Outward

As God's ambassador, you bring the message of reconciliation with you to those around you. What are ways you can share this message with others—both using your words and your actions?