



STUDY GUIDE

RIGHT WITH GOD 8.02.2015

[set up]

Though hard to believe, it's already August. Share the favorite thing you have done this summer.

This week we looked at Romans 9 and the doctrine of election/predestination/God's choice. According to theologian Wayne Grudem, "Election is an act of God before creation in which he chooses some people to be saved, not on account of any foreseen merit in them, but only because of his sovereign good pleasure."¹

This is a difficult biblical truth to understand due to our limitations as humans. Before last week, have you ever heard of this biblical truth? What was your impression from it?

[digging deeper]

Read Ephesians 1:3-14. Look at the places where this passage talks about God's election, choice, and predestination. What are the purposes of his choice?

Read Genesis 12:1-3. Why did God call Abraham? What was the purpose?

Read Deuteronomy 7:7-9. Why did God choose Israel? What was the purpose?

It is easy to think, "If God has chosen those who will be saved, why share Jesus with my neighbor?" Ultimately, our job is to be obedient to our loving Savior.

Read Matthew 28:18-20; Matt 9:35-38; Romans 10:13-17

- It sure sounds like, though God chooses, that we are commanded to share with our neighbors, friends, family, strangers, and even enemies.

[living it out]

How does this biblical truth help us be more God dependent?

How does this biblical truth bring us greater levels of peace, confidence, and joy?

If God even saves the most unlikely, how does this biblical truth give us a renewed motivation to invite people to new life in Christ through Live New 10/24?

¹ Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology, p670.

Additional Resources:

The issues that we looked at in Romans 9 are difficult to understand. Below are some resources you can look at for more information so that you can be a better self-feeder. These are listed from hardest to easiest to absorb.

Pastor John Piper has some great videos breaking down this very passage:

Desiringgod.org/labs

- Also, check out his sermons on the topic

Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology, Chapter 32

John Calvin, Institutes of the Christian Religion, Book 3, Chapters 21-24