

EQUIP ACADEMY

GOD'S RESCUE PLAN: UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION

1. Define the Doctrine

Unconditional election is God's eternal choice of some sinners to salvation — not based on foreseen faith, works, or merit, but solely on His sovereign grace.

- God decides the destination before the journey begins
- We are spiritually dead and unable to seek God (Eph 2:1)
- Our only hope is that God takes saving action

WSC Q20: *God, having out of his mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life, did enter into a covenant of grace to deliver them out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer.*

WCF III.V: God chose His people in Christ “*out of His mere free grace and love... without foresight of faith or good works...all to the praise of his glorious grace*”

2. Defend it Theologically

- Rooted in the absolute sovereignty of God
- Either God is in control, or salvation rests partly on human ability

‘Although our conversion involves our trusting in Christ and turning from sin to God, it arises from God’s activity in the soul’ J. Beeke

3. Demonstrate it in Scripture

Election runs through the entire Bible:

- **OT examples:** Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David (Gen 12, 21, 27, 1 Samuel 16)
- **God chooses His people:** Deut 7:6; 1 Pet 2:9
- **Jesus teaches it:** “You did not choose me, but I chose you” (John 15:16)
- **Acts 13:48:** “As many as were appointed to eternal life believed”
- **Rom 8:30:** “And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified”
- **Ephesians 1:** “He chose us...He predestined us...to the praise of His glorious grace

Romans 9 (central text):

4. Deconstruct the Objections

a. Conditional Election (Arminianism)

b. Is God Just?

- Justice = everyone deserves condemnation.
- Election = *mercy*, not fairness.

c. Misused texts

- **John 3:16** – “world” = fallen humanity
- **2 Peter 3:9** – God is patient toward *you* (the church)
- **Revelation 3:20** – Christ knocks at a *church*, not an evangelistic text

d. Free Will?

We choose what we most desire — but sin ensures we never desire God unless God changes our hearts.

“The human will is not forced, but changed from an evil to a good one, and made willing by the Spirit.” J. Calvin

5. Doxology: The Doctrine’s Application

Election is not for debate but worship.

- **Humbles us to worship** - salvation is all of grace (Eph 2:8–9)
- **Assures us** - chosen before the foundation of the world
- **Encourages evangelism** – we preach Christ, God opens blind eyes