



SOTERIOLOGY

**THE BIBLICAL WAY OF TEACHING
ELECTION**

Introduction

We should always teach election in its biblical context.

I. The Bible never separates election from moral and ethical considerations

A. Elected to bring glory to God

1 Peter 2:9 – “that you may proclaim praises of Him”

B. Elected to a holy character and useful
conduct

John 15:16 – “that you should go and bear
fruit”

II. Human responsibility is emphasized

A. The Bible never separates election from human responsibility.

1. Election: John 6:44

Human response: John 6:47

2. Election: John 6:37a

Human response: John 6:37b

3. Election: Matthew 11:25-27

Human response: Matthew 11:28

B. God desires all men to be saved.

1. 1 Timothy 2:4 – “who desires all men to be saved”
2. Calvinists: “All men” = all elect men

C. Man is responsible for choosing.

1. Joshua 24:15 – “choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve”
2. Deuteronomy 30:19 – “choose life”

D. Man often refuses God.

1. Proverbs 1:29 – “they...did not choose the fear of the Lord”
2. John 5:40 – “you are not willing to come to Me”

III. Preach the gospel first, not election

A. The lost cannot possibly understand election.

Why?

The convicting work of the Holy Spirit is not with regard to election.

B. The gospel is not, “Perhaps you have been elected.”

C. The gospel is: Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again according to the Scriptures (1 Cor. 15:3-4).

D. Teach election to the saints.

IV. The Bible never teaches election to perdition in the same sense as election to eternal life

A. Certain key words used with regard to the destiny of saints are never used with regard to perdition of the ungodly.

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1. Never is there a “choosing” or “electing” to judgment.
 2. Never are the lost said to be “foreknown.”
 3. Never is a “book of death” mentioned.

B. However, very strong terminology is used.

1. Romans 9

a. “Esau I have hated” (9:13)

b. Pharaoh was raised up to show God’s power (9:17).

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- c. “Whom He wills He hardens” (9:18)
 - d. “Vessels of wrath prepared for destruction” (9:22)

2. 1 Peter 2:7-8

“Appointed” does not mean elected or chosen, but pre-determined.

3. Jude 4

“Marked out” means pre-determined.

4. Proverbs 16:4

The Lord has made the wicked for the day of evil.

C. The Bible teaches pre-determination, not double election.

God simply passes over those who do not believe.

In His omniscience He knew who these would be.