SALVATION

God's Choice of Man
OR
Man's Choice of God

Q&A Session

06/01/14

Explain Acts 13:48

Acts 13:48 "*When the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.*"

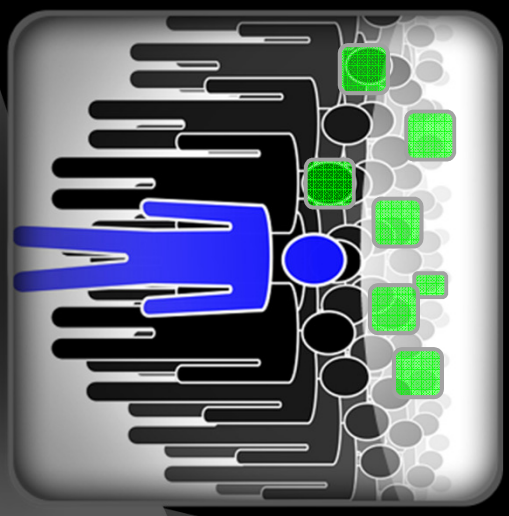
Acts 13:48 *"When the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed."*

- **TASSO – 'to draw up in order'**
- **NOT 'Pro-Orizo' (Predestine)**

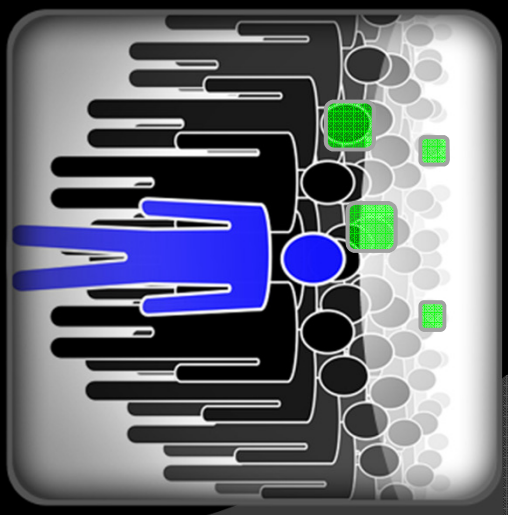
1 Corinthians 16:15 *Now I urge you, brethren (you know the household of Stephanas, that they were the first fruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted (TASSO) themselves for ministry to the saints),*



GENTILES



JEWS



Explain 2 Thess 2:13

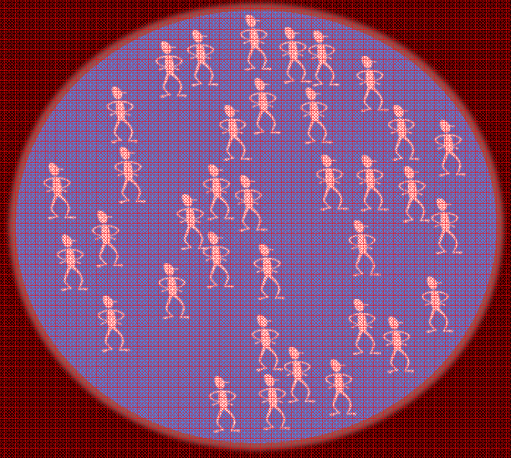
2 Thessalonians 2:13 *But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth.*

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Haireo – 'to choose'
NOT 'ekletos'

Philippians 1:22 But if *I am* to live *on* in the flesh, this *will mean* fruitful labor for me; and **I** do not know which to **choose.**

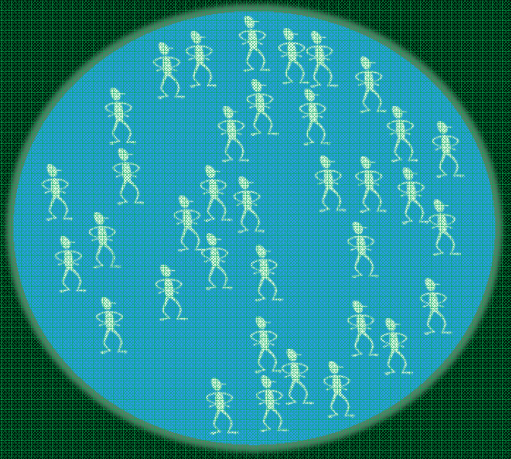
Hebrews 11:25 choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,



Who did not believe the truth
(v.11)

JUDGED

Vs



CHURCH

SAVED from WRATH

John 3:16 *"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."*

John 5:24 *"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life"*

Romans 10:9 "*that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;*"

Repentance

Does God Grant It? (2 Tim. 2:25)

OR

Command It? (Acts 3:19)

- Acts 17:30 “*Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all everywhere should repent,”*
- Jesus said in: Mark 1:15 *"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”*
- Luke 13:3 *“I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”*

What is repentance?

Grk. *Metanoia* = change of mind

Ironside: “To repent is to change one’s attitude toward self, towards sin, toward God, toward Christ.”

Repentance is the recognition of my sinnership- the acknowledging before God that I am as vile as He has declared me to be in His Holy Word.”

John 16:7-8 “*But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper shall not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment*”

2Tim 2:25 *"…with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth."*

"grant" (Grk: *didomi*) has many meanings:

- to give
- to give to one asking, let have
- to supply, to furnish
- to reach out, extend, present
- to permit

Strongs

Acts 11:18 *"God has granted to the Gentiles also the repentance that leads to life."*

* Does this mean that all Gentiles will be saved?

No, it means that God has extended to the Gentiles, the opportunity to repent and be saved.

2 Peter 3:9 *"The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance."*

"…if perhaps God may grant them repentance"

"So the opportunity to repent is a gift of God.

He graciously allows us the opportunity to turn from our sins, but we must do the repenting.

God is not going to repent for us.

Repentance is an act of our will supported and encouraged by His grace."

Norman Geisler

ROMANS 9

A sovereign God has chosen to open salvation to the gentiles

Context of Romans

- The book of Romans is about the Gospel and it's power to Jew *and* Gentile *on the basis of faith*

- Romans 1:16-17 "*For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."*

Outline of Romans up to Ch. 9

- We all fall short of God's righteousness: Condemnation 1:18-3:20
- We all must gain righteousness through faith in Jesus Christ: Justification 3:21 – 5:21
- We all grow in righteousness not through the law but by the Spirit: Sanctification and Glorification 6:1-8:39

What happened to Israel then?

- Paul hurts because his people Israel, the ones who had all the covenants, etc., are not participating in Christ. 9: 1-5
- But it is not because God's word has failed, because it is evident that not all who descended from Israel are true Israel. 9:6
- In other words, physical descent is not enough which should be evident from the stories of Isaac vs. Ishmael and Jacob vs. Esau. You have to be descended from the child of promise (as is true in both cases). 9: 7-13

Does God have the right to chose like that to include the gentiles?

- **Yes, He's God** 9:15-21
- It's what He told you would happen, the gentiles being saved and there just being a remnant of Israel 9:24-29
- What can I say? The gentiles believed in Christ and Israel did not. 30-33

Key Disputed Verses
Romans 9:10-13

- Romans 9:10-13 “*10 And not only this, but there was Rebekah also, when she had conceived twins by one man, our father Isaac; 11 for though the twins were not yet born and had not done anything good or bad, so that God's purpose according to His choice would stand, not because of works but because of Him who calls, 12 it was said to her, "THE OLDER WILL SERVE THE YOUNGER." 13 Just as it is written, "JACOB I LOVED, BUT ESAU I HATED.”*

Romans 9:10-13

- These verses are parallel to the previous verses about Isaac being the child of promise. It is proving the same thing. You have to be of promise to participate not of works, not of a certain lineage.
- These verses are about whose lineage the promise comes through, two nations (Gen 25:23) that were to come of Jacob and Esau and in which the promise would reside.
- These verses are not talking about individual salvation. God makes it clear in Chapter 11 that even if you are of a “select” nation you still need to believe.

What is Chapter 9 saying?

- Is this saying that God has arbitrarily (unconditionally) selected some for Salvation regenerated them against their will?
- No, the passage is actually saying the opposite. It is always on the basis of promise that we participate. It is not our lineage, not our works. God has chosen those who believe in Jesus, whether Jew or Gentile to attain righteousness.

How can you say many Calvinists are fine bible teachers with ‘inspiring’ and ‘edifying’ teaching, given their understanding on such a fundamental doctrine as salvation?

Acts 17:11 *Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.*