

## **Chapter One: The God of the Bible is Gracious**

### **None Other by John MacArthur**

*“Jesus came and became poor to exchange His life for yours, in order to fulfill the elective plan of God, that He might do the will of God perfectly and in the end give back to God the very love gift that the Father had given to Him.”*

#### **Warm-Up:**

1. **Memory Verse:** through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. ... For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (Rom. 5:2, 6-8).
2. Take a moment to meditate on the above memory verses. Write down ways in which God’s grace is manifested. Then write out a prayer to God expressing your thankfulness for these truths. Open in prayer before you begin your study.

#### **Prepare and Discuss:**

3. Read Ephesians 1:3-4. Although God’s grace does manifest itself in the sacrifice of God’s Son and in the redemption of sinners, God’s plan of redemption reaches back even further. According to your reading, what precious doctrine flows out of God’s grace which helps the believer to better understand God, His plan of redemption, and His design for the church?<sup>1</sup>
4. Some are shocked to find that God did not choose to save everyone to salvation. They may even believe that this doctrine makes God unfair or unjust. How does Paul challenge this line of thinking in Romans 9:14-18?

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<sup>1</sup>John MacArthur, *None Other* (Sanford, FL: Reformation Trust, 2017), 2.

5. Read Titus 1:1-2 over a few times. Based on your reading, describe Paul's ministry under each category and how this gives you hope in your current circumstances.<sup>2</sup>
- a. Justification (Tit.1:1a) -
  - b. Sanctification (Tit.1:1b) -
  - c. Glorification (Tit.1:2) –
6. What did Pastor John reveal in the reading that is the *primary* purpose of salvation<sup>3</sup>, (cf. 2 Tm. 1:8-9; Jn. 6:37-38, 44; Jn. 17)? List out a couple of ways this enhances your worship of Christ this side of heaven?
7. Read John 6:37-40. This passage speaks to the perseverance of the saints and is tied to the promise God predetermined to make for His Son as revealed above. List some truths from this passage that give your heart comfort. Then write out a commitment to share this truth with at least one person this week who needs this comfort. (2 Cor. 1:3-5)

### **Application:**

8. The doctrine of election flows out of God's grace and should not extinguish your ability to evangelize the lost.<sup>4</sup> In fact, it should make you a more determined evangelist! Write down the names of at least 2 people you can share the gospel with this week. What are their names and your plan of action?

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<sup>2</sup>Ibid, 13-14.

<sup>3</sup>John MacArthur, *None Other* (Sanford, FL: Reformation Trust, 2017), 15-17, 23.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid, 2-3.

9. Taking to heart that God is sovereign in choosing His own, how might this doctrine help you counsel another fellow believer who has just lost his job, or a mother whose child has died, or children who suffer because their parents are getting a divorce? Frame your answer by thinking through Romans 8:28-29; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; and James 1:2-5.

### **Digging Deeper:**

For those that want to dive into this topic a little deeper, listen to the following sermon given by Pastor John MacArthur: *The Doctrine of Election, Part 1*, <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/90-273/the-doctrine-of-election-part-1>.

### **You Are the Lord<sup>5</sup>**

You are eternal, God of ages past, Alpha, Omega, You, the First, the Last!  
None may compare, there is no god beside You. Holy! Unchanging!  
There is none like You!

○ *Refrain:*

You are the Lord! You are our God! Father, Son, and Spirit! You are the Lord!

You are Creator, God of everything, You spread the heavens, You made the stars to sing;  
You made the earth, creating man to know You. Sovereign! Almighty!  
There is none like You.

You are Redeemer, God of boundless love, Father who chooses, Son who shed your blood;  
Spirit who grants new birth that we might trust You. Gracious and merciful!  
There is none like You.

You are exalted, God of endless praise, Saints from all nations praise You all their days.  
Gathered around Your throne, we will exalt You. Worthy and glorious!  
There is none like You.

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<sup>5</sup>Matthew Hoskinson, 2006 (Hymns of Grace), 329.