

KEPT BY GOD

1 Peter 1:5

Psalm 121

John 10:26-31



Peter- An Apostle

- Commissioned by Christ.
- Same authority as Christ.
- ★ Luke 10:16

To the Elect

- “pilgrims, sojourners, strangers” – Hebrews 11:13-16; Philippians 3:20-21)
 - ★ As pilgrims, we must abstain from fleshly lusts that war against our souls. (1 Peter 2:11)
- Chosen and sanctified **for obedience**. Obedience unto **the** faith. (Acts 6:3; Romans 1:5; 16:26; Hebrews 5:9)
- Suffering persecution and about to suffer greater persecution. (Acts 14:22; John 15:18-20; Philippians 1:29; 2 Tim 3:12; Matt 5:6)

Doctrine of Election

- **Defined:** “By the **decree** of God, the Creator of the entire universe, for the manifestation of His glory, some men and some angels are predestined (before time began) to everlasting life, and others are foreordained to everlasting death.”
- **FOUNDATIONAL DOCTRINE: Everything** in time proceeds from God choosing “His special people”. (1 Peter 2:9)
 - ✓ Foundational doctrine for ALL other doctrines and the GOSPEL!
 - ✗ Get this doctrine wrong and EVERYTHING else you believe about GOD, grace, sin, salvation, etc. will be wrong!

BORN AGAIN by God

- “us” – ONLY the elect (chosen) of God.
- One **must** be born again to “see the kingdom of Heaven.” (John 3:3-8)
- One is “born again” by the WILL of GOD – not MAN! (John 1:12-13; James 1:18)
- The elect are born **again** “according to God’s **abundant** mercy.”
- When one is “born again” or “born from above” or “born of God” that person becomes a child of God!

- As a child of God we receive a NEW NATURE! (2 Peter 1:3-4; 2 Corinthians 5:17)
- A child of God is distinguished from ALL others because they “practice righteousness”! (1 John 2:29; 3:6-10)

The Children of God Are Heirs of God (Romans 8:13-17)

- We are “co-heirs” with Christ - the Son of God!
- ALL those who have this HOPE or LIVING HOPE “purify themselves as He is pure.” (1 John 3:1-3)

The Elect’s Inheritance (v. 4)

- A city built by God. (Hebrews 11:13-16)
- A mansion prepared by Christ. (John 14:1-6)
- A feast/banquet in our honor! (Luke 12:37)
- No more pain, etc.. (Revelation 21:3-5)
- A seat on Christ’s throne. (Revelation 3:21)
- New bodies (1 Corinthians 15:42-44)
- ★ GOD HIMSELF! (Psalm 73:25-26)

A Secured Inheritance (v. 4)

- Peter, moved by the Holy Spirit, further describes this inheritance as:
 - INCORRUPTIBLE: not liable to decay; imperishable.
 - UNDEFILED: pure
 - DOES NOT FADE AWAY
- This inheritance is RESERVED for the ELECT in Heaven.
 - ★ There is no other place in all the universe that is more secure than Heaven!
 - ★ “reserved for you” –
 - Definition: “guarded”; “watched over”
 - PERFECT tense: something already completed in the past, once for all, not needing to be repeated.
 - PASSIVE voice: something done for us not by us!
 - “you” – only the ELECT!!
- Christ’s description in Luke 12:32-33!

A Secured Heir (v. 5; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)

- THIS IS GRACE UPON GRACE UPON GRACE!
- Not only are we chosen by God, given new life by God, made His heirs of an inheritance that cannot fade away and is guarded for us, but we, His elect, are “kept” by God!!!!

- God’s children are protected by their Father so that they we not do anything that to forfeit this inheritance. (John 10:27-29)
- GOD seals His elect with His own Spirit. (Ephesians 1:13-14; 2 Cor 1:21-22)
- THIS IS THE DOCTRINE OF PERSEVERANCE and PRESERVATION.
 - **Doctrine stated:** “They, whom God has accepted in His Beloved, effectually called, and sanctified by the His Spirit, can neither totally nor finally fall away from the state of grace, but shall certainly persevere therein to the end, and be eternally saved. This perseverance of the saints depends not upon their own free will, but upon the **immutability** of the decree of **election**.”
- When we are “born-again” God puts His Law on our minds and hearts, He gives us His Spirit to cause us to obey, and He puts His fear in us so that we will not wander away from Him and His commandments. (Hebrews 8:10-12; Ezekiel 36:26-27; Jeremiah 32:40)
- God’s children are “kept” (*phroureo* {froo-reh'-o} - “to guard”; “protect by a military guard”; “by watching and guarding to preserve on for the attainment of something”)
 - ★ PRESENT TENSE: something that is continually happening!
 - ★ PASSIVE VOICE: not something we do but what is done for us!
- **ALL THOSE WHOM GOD ELECTS GOD GLORIFIES!** (Romans 8:29-30)



- “through faith” FAITH is a GIFT of GOD’s grace. Therefore the evidence of God’s grace! (Ephesians 2:8-9) ONLY GOD GIVEN FAITH BELIEVES THE TRUTH. God given faith works and obeys God’s written Word. (James 2:14-26)
- SALVATION, from beginning to end, is the WORK of GOD! (**Psalm 37:24**; 138:8; John 10:28; Philippians 1:6; Jeremiah 32:39-40; 1 Thessalonians 5:24)

- “salvation ready to be revealed in the last time” – God’s salvation of His children is **THREEFOLD** –
 - ① “I was saved” at **REGENERATION** or **REBIRTH!** (John 3:3-8; James 1:18; John 1:12-13)
 - ★ We are saved from the **PENALTY, POWER** and **PLEASURE** of sin.
 - ② “I am being saved” - this is **SANCTIFICATION** or the spiritual maturing of God’s children. (2 Corinthians 3:18; Romans 12:2; Colossians 3:10; Philippians 3:13-14; Romans 13:11)
 - ③ “I will be saved” – this is **GLORIFICATION**. We will be saved from the **PRESENCE** of sin! (Hebrews 9:28; Isaiah 25:9; Romans 9:23)
- **ALL THIS IS GRACE** - from **REGENERATION** to **GLORIFICATION!**
- This inheritance is **READY NOW** for all of God’s elect! **BUT** it will not be **FULLY** and **COMPLETELY** realized until the end!
 - This is part of the **LIVING HOPE** that God’s elect live for. This **LIVING HOPE** motivates God’s elect to live lives pleasing in His sight. This **LIVING HOPE** motivates the elect to pursue holiness (Hebrews 12:14) and to purify themselves just as Christ is pure (1 John 3:3; 2 Corinthians 7:1). This **LIVING HOPE** moves God’s elect to persevere! This **LIVING HOPE** is what God’s elect **groan** for! (1 Peter 1:3; 2 Corinthians 5:9; Romans 8:23-25)
 - God’s elect **KNOW** that the **BEST** is yet to come!

IF HEIRS then . . .

- Make our election **SURE**.
 - ① Acknowledge sin as God sees sin. (1 John 3:4)
 - ② Examine yourself regularly. (2 Corinthians 13:5)
 - ③ Use God’s Word as a mirror. (James 1:22-25; 1 John; Rom 6:11-22)
- As pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against our souls. (1 Peter 2:11; Romans 7:23; 8:13; Galatians 5:17, 24)
- Rejoice and praise God. (1 Peter 2:9; Isaiah 43:21)
- Give glory to God for His **ABUNDANCE** mercy and grace. (Ephesians 1:5-6, 12, 14; Philippians 1:11)
- Setting our minds on things above and not on the things of this world. (Colossians 3:1-3; Isaiah 26:3-4; 1 John 2:15-17)
- Make it our aim to be well pleasing to Him who chose us, begot, and is guarding us! (2 Corinthians 5:9; Colossians 1:10; 1 John 3:22)