**The Doctrine of Election**

**Definition:**

**Election was the act of God before creation in which God chose some individuals to be saved, not on account of anything that the person would do, but only because of God’s sovereign good pleasure.**

**Romans Chapter 9: Paul’s Defense of God’s Prerogative in Election**

1. **The problem of many Jews not being saved by faith in Jesus (9:1-5)**
2. **Question #1: Did God’s relational promises to the Jews fail (9:6)**
3. **Answer #1: No, God did exactly what He promised. (9:6-13)**
   1. **Clarification: God’s relational promises were not to all Jews. He promised to have relationships with specific people. (9:6-8)**
      1. **Various Historical Examples: Isaac not Ishmeal (9:7), Sarah not Hagar (9:9)*,* Jacob not Esau 9:13)**
      2. **Detailed Historical Example: Jacob and Esau (9:10-13)**
4. **Question #2: Isn’t it unjust for God to initiate relationships with some people and not with others? (9:14)**
5. **Answer #2: God is just because choosing is His divine prerogative. (9:14-18)**
   1. **It is God’s divine prerogative to be in relationship with some.(9:14-16)**
   2. **It is God’s divine prerogative to *not* be in relationship with some.(9:17-18)**
6. **Question #3: If God chooses who will be in relationship with Him and who will not, how could God fault the person who is hard hearted or outside of relationship? (9:19)**
7. **Answer #3: God is God, not you (9:20-24)**
   1. **God the creator can do what He pleases with His creation (9:20-21).**
   2. **God has a cosmic master plan to put His glory on display through election (9:22-24).**

Homework:

Read chapter 5 on prayer

1. **Displayed through God’s patience towards and just condemnation of the wicked. (9:22)**
2. **Displayed through God’s gracious saving of the church (9:23-24)**