

Helping Others See Truth

Commentary for December 15, 2023 — ... As We Understand the Truth

Why can't I open his/her eyes to see the truth ... as I understand it?!

Have you ever desired to assist someone to understand what you have understood for a long time? Have you maybe gone over a matter time after time, or even in an alternate fashion, to help them see the light, yet to no avail?

It is refreshing to know God is in charge. **"Our God is in heaven; He does whatever pleases Him"** (Psalm 115:3).

That burden and responsibility does not necessarily have to be borne by us.

Before creation, God pre-ordained individuals, who, among other things, would either accept the Gospel of Christ, or not (as indicated in "[Chapter 7, God's Use of Evil and the Allotment](#)" of Dr. Ernest Martin's book, [ABC's of the Gospel](#)).

The apostle Paul reinforces this idea when he asks, **"For who is able to resist His will?"** (Romans 9:19).

Dr. Martin additionally states, **Christ knew that Judas had been fore-ordained in a special way to betray Him ... in fact, Judas could not have gotten out of doing the pre-ordained job that he was selected to do** (*ABC's*, chapter 7).

In Isaiah 55:8–9, it states:

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, says YHWH. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

• **Isaiah 55:8–9**

Finally, Paul tells us in Ephesians 1:11, how God makes decisions for His creation:

"In whom also we have obtained an inheritance [an "allotment," a result of choice determined by a "lottery"], being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who works all things after the counsel OF HIS OWN WILL."

• **Ephesians 1:11**

Why Does God Use Such a System?

As Paul says, God alone decides every important thing for everyone, individually. He consults no one for advice, although He will listen to their prayers. You might further ask, WHY would the Creator use such a system, and do things in such a way? God decided to use a lottery as a means to select who would learn the truths of their being created, their life, their death, and their future after death.

God chose a fair way to make such elections: by **lot**, a **divine lottery** (Again, see *ABC's*

chapter 7, above). God's intervention to put into motion, and the fulfillment of, His choice occurs in different "eras" (1 Timothy 2:6, see the Greek). None of us had (or have) a choice as to who is appointed by God, or when we are elected by God to learn the mind of God (Romans 8:27–32, 12:1–2).

Whether one, at this time, likes/dislikes or agrees/disagrees with God's plan, it serves to remind us that God will DO HIS WILL. After all, we had no input when God created the heavens and the earth, as stated in Genesis 1:31, **"God saw all that He had made, and it was very good"** (Genesis 1:31).

Remember, God is not a respecter of persons: **"God does not show favoritism"** (Acts 10:34), although God does show favor. **Noah found favor in the eyes of YHWH** (Genesis 6:8). Yet, God tells us to trust His ways:

"Trust in YHWH with all your heart and lean not unto your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge [submit to] Him, and He shall direct your paths."

• **Proverbs 3:5–6**

God makes all decisions, as to when any individual learns the truths about His love for them (Acts 9:18 — scales fell from Saul of Tarsus' eyes). So, how do we learn what God's thoughts are? As Paul asked, **"For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been His counselor?"** (Romans 11:34).

Adverse, or Neutral, Responses

We may deeply desire to help others come to the truths of God, to learn and acknowledge His love for all children of Adam — what we have been taught and learned. What do we do then? Well, if our actions do not yield "fruit" or success, God gives us comfort.

"Who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of His own purpose and grace, which He gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began."

• **2 Timothy 1:9**

Paul wrote to the Corinthian *ekklesia* that God is attaining the outcomes of His desire. God is in control:

"I HAVE PLANTED, Apollos [an evangelist] watered, but GOD GAVE THE INCREASE."

So then neither is he that plants any thing, neither he that waters, but GOD THAT GIVES THE INCREASE."

• **1 Corinthians 3:6–7**

However, our focus must be to love people and pray to God; we can always do these things. **Above all, love each other deeply** (1 Peter 4:8). **"Pray without ceasing ... for THIS IS GOD'S WILL for you in Christ Jesus"** (1 Thessalonians 5:17–18).

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