

“THE BLESSING OF GOD’S ELECTING LOVE”
EPHESIANS 1:4

I. HISTORY OF THE DEBATE ON ELECTION

A. The North African Church Father, Augustine

- 1. His Prayer Regarding His Helplessness**
- 2. His Battle With The Heretic Monk Pelagius**

B. The Humanist Desiderius Erasmus

- 1. His Debate With Luther**
- 2. The Issue Narrowed From The Nature Of Man To The Specific Aspect Of The Human Will**

C. The Reformer John Calvin

- 1. The Debate Between Calvin’s Followers & James Arminius**
- 2. The Issue Narrowed Even Further To The Nature Of God’s Grace Pertaining To Salvation**

D. The Evangelist George Whitefield

- 1. His Debate With John Wesley**
- 2. The Issue Centered On The Nature Of Evangelism**

E. The Apostle Paul & Romans 9

II. RESULTS OF THE DEBATE ON ELECTION

A. The Polarization Of God’s People

B. Intimidation

C. Disinclination To Even Consider The Subject

III. SANCTIFIED APPROACH TO THE DEBATE ON ELECTION

- A. We Must Have A Reverent Attitude**
- B. We Must Have Great Humility**
- C. We Must Preserve Scriptural Distinctions**

IV. REVEALED FACTS REGARDING THE DEBATE ON ELECTION

- A. "Chosen" "Elect" & Derivatives Are Frequently Employed In The N.T.**
- B. The Word(s) Mean Exactly What They Say**
- C. N.T. Usages Of The Key Word(s) Are Quite Instructive**
 - 1. General Illustrations**
 - 2. Illustrations Pertaining To Christ**
 - 3. Illustrations Pertaining To People**
- D. Our Text Reveals The Timing And Purpose Of God's Election**