



Last week in Utah with 3 of our missionaries





# The Most Important Election In History

# Election

- ▷ Reformation Day: John Calvin teaches unconditional election
- ▷ Election: Vote
- ▷ Exodus: Israel chosen, Pharaoh wasn't



# Election

- ▶ God's sovereign act of freely *choosing* people to be saved



## 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14



“God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

# Ephesians 1:4-6

He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the beloved.

- ▷ Planner
- ▷ Provider
- ▷ Period
- ▷ Purpose
- ▷ Plan
- ▷ Profit
- ▷ Premise
- ▷ Priority
- ▷ Product

# Election is ...



*“the eternal act of God whereby He, in His sovereign good pleasure, and on account of no foreseen merit in them, chooses a certain number of men to be the recipients of special grace and of eternal salvation.”*

(Louis Berkhoff, *Systematic Theology*)

# I. God's Election Is Undeserved

Romans 9:9-11a And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or

had





# II. God Election Is Unconditional

Romans 9:11b-18





# A. To Accomplish God's Sovereign Purpose

- ▷ <sup>11b</sup> in order that God's purpose of **election** might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls — <sup>12</sup> she was told, "The older will serve the younger." <sup>13</sup> As it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

## B. To Reveal God's Mercy And Compassion



- ▶ <sup>14</sup> What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God's part? By no means! <sup>15</sup> For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."

## C. To Accomplish God's Will

- ▶ <sup>16</sup> So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.



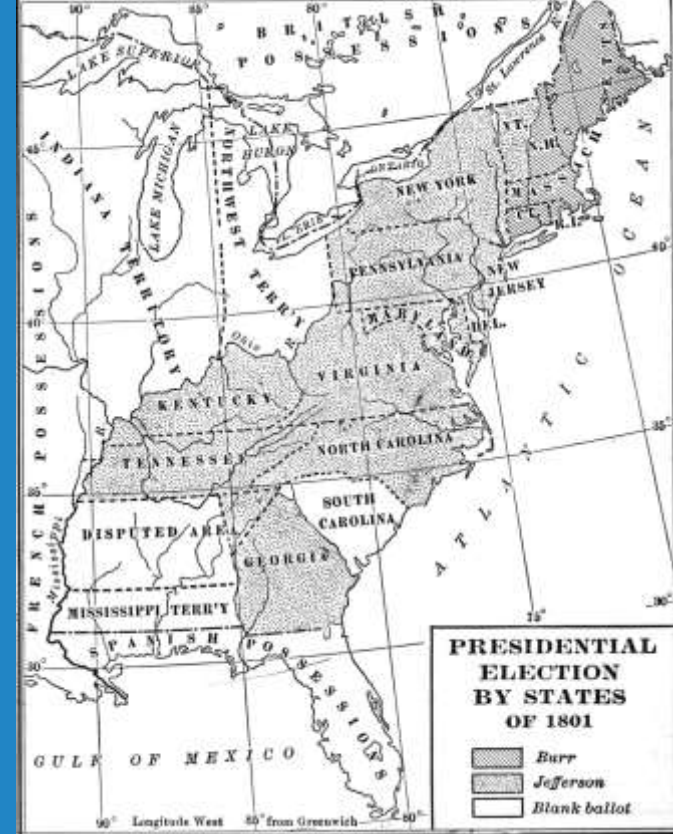


## D. To Proclaim God's Power

- ▶ <sup>17</sup> For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” <sup>18</sup> So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.

# III. God's Election Is Uncontestable

Romans 9:19-24



<https://www.history.com/news/aaron-burr-alexander-hamilton-election-1800>

## Romans 9:19-21

<sup>19</sup> You will say to me then, “Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?” <sup>20</sup> But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, “Why have you made me like this?” <sup>21</sup> Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?

## Romans 9:22-24

<sup>22</sup> What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, <sup>23</sup> in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory— <sup>24</sup> even us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles?



# Conclusion

- ▶ God has chosen to be merciful to some when He is also just to condemn everyone.

# Conclusion

- ▶ Because God has elected, evangelism is less about convincing and more about proclaiming. God will draw to Him who He chose.

# Conclusion

- ▷ God chose us!
- ▷ Choose God!



# Discussion

- ▶ If you had a lump of clay, what's the first thing you'd want to make?
- ▶ How do we understand God's mercy and God's fairness together?
- ▶ How can we choose to believe in God if we don't know if we're chosen?