

## In Christ

From a spiritual perspective

March 3, 2025

### Are you Chosen?

#### **INTRO.**

I was listening to some interesting teachings last week – which triggered this scripture to well up in my spirit:

#### **Matthew 22:14 New Living Translation**

“For many are called, - - but few are chosen.”

I will be honest – this scripture has always intrigued me – as it seems to delineate two groups of people – those who are called and those who are chosen.

#### **Now – before we venture down this road – I want to remind you of two important truths:**

1. You are a sovereign being and can choose what to believe and what not to believe ... Now – that choice also comes with consequences ... So, if you choose to dismiss a teaching – without even considering it – you will never be able to expand your spiritual consciousness ... The main goal of this series is to stretch us so that you can break free of our personal matrix ... So that we can come to the place where we can think and ask for the impossible in faith.

2. When we examine scripture – first and foremost – we need to ask for the Spirit of wisdom and revelation to be present – during our examination ... We don't need an intellectual comprehension of scripture – we need spiritual discernment and revelation of the scripture ... Remember – there are levels of revelation when it comes to a biblical text ... For example – we know an onion has many layers to it – yet it is still an onion ... Spiritual truth works in the same manner ... There can be many levels of revelation to the same text ... Now catch this – you will

never experience a deeper level of revelation – if you don't allow the Holy Spirit to transform the way you think – so that your spiritual consciousness may be expanded.

## TRANS

So, today – I want to hit the pause button ... Even though what I will share still relates to being “In Christ” ... But today – I would like to take a step back – and re-examine a part of a spiritual foundational truth as it relates to our existence or our very being

### Romans 8:29 The Voice

From the distant past, - His eternal love reached into the future. ... You see, - He knew those who would be His one day, - and **He chose them beforehand** - - **to be conformed to the image of His Son** - - so that Jesus would be the firstborn of - **a new family of believers**, (*Kainos beings*) all brothers and sisters.

### Romans 8:30 Expanded Bible

And **those God chose** - - to be like His Son [predestined; **chose beforehand**], - - He also called; ... **and those He called**, ... He also ·made right with Him [declared righteous; justified]; and those He ·made right [declared righteous; justified], He also glorified [both a past act in Christ, and a future transformation].

Now – we need to stay focused here – as this topic can create a hot theological debate ...

Remember – the goal is expanding our spiritual consciousness to break free of our religious ideologies – so that we may experience the fullness of sonship.

So, here is my question ... Have you been “Chosen” by God from birth – to carry out His divine purpose – here on earth ... Let me first share these two scriptures for your consideration:

### Jeremiah 1:4-5 Holman Christian Standard Bible

The word of the Lord came to me: ... 5 **I chose you - before I formed you in the womb**; - - I set you apart before you were born. ... I appointed you a prophet to the nations.

### Galatians 1:15 Easy English Bible

But **God had chosen me** to serve Him even before I was born. ... **He chose me** to be His servant because He is very kind.

Why is this important to know – if you have been chosen? ... How do I identify – if I have actually been chosen from my mother's womb? ... Let me present these few concepts that will help you to identify if you have been chosen by God from your mother's womb ... At the end – I will share with you why it is important to know.

### **Five Thoughts to Consider**

#### **As a Child - - you had a challenging upbringing**

##### **You seemed to face an unusual number of struggles**

Compared to your peers – you seemed to have many more family struggles – than other families ... You may have deal with financial struggles ... Maybe your parents were not the best at raising the family

##### **You had adult responsibilities placed upon you at a young age**

Maybe you found yourself taking care of yourself at a young age ... Maybe you were responsible for taking care of your siblings at a young age

##### **You struggled with learning difficulties**

Maybe you struggled in school – where your peers just seemed to breeze right through ... Maybe you had a hard time with comprehension and needed things explained to you many times.

If you can relate – the Lord was training you at a young age to carry a heavier load than others ... He was strengthening you – building up your spiritual muscles – to deal with and carry things others couldn't

### **Romans 5:3-4 The Voice**

And that's not all. ... We also celebrate in seasons of suffering - because we know that when we suffer, we develop endurance, ... 4 which shapes our characters. ... When our characters are refined, ... we learn what it means to hope and anticipate God's goodness.

### **As a Child – you had prophetic or meaningful dreams**

Did you regularly have vivid dreams that seemed real? ... Did you have dreams that stuck with you or profoundly impacted you? ... Did you have dreams that actually came true ... Did you have dreams where you thought God was talking to you? ... We see – Joseph had dreams that proved true – came from God – which saved his family and heritage ... Can you relate?

#### **1 Samuel 3:9 New King James Version**

Therefore, Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and it shall be, if He calls you, that you must say, ‘Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears.’” So, Samuel went and lay down in his place.

### **As a Child – kids with problems and/or even animals were attracted to you**

Did you have troubled kids at school gravitate towards you ... Did hyper animals feel calmness around you ... When others came around you – you seemed to have a calming and comforting effect upon them ... Were you able to bring peace into chaotic situations.

#### **Matthew 5:9 New King James Version**

Blessed are the peacemakers, - - For they shall be called sons of God.

### **As a Child – you were highly sensitive to the truth and extremely bothered by dishonesty**

How did you react or feel when you heard others lying? ... How did you react or feel when you knew someone was being dishonest? ... When you lied as a child – did you have a visceral gut response? ... Was truth – honesty – and integrity extremely important to you when you were a child.

#### **Psalms 51:6 New Living Translation**

But you desire honesty from the womb, - teaching me wisdom even there.

### **As a Child – others trusted you because you were a person of your word.**

When you made a commitment – you always followed through ... You were not a quitter when things got tough ... You were a doer and not just a talker and others knew that so they came to you when something needed to get done

### **Luke 16:10 New Living Translation**

“If you are faithful in little things, - you will be faithful in large ones. ... But if you are dishonest in little things, - you won’t be honest with greater responsibilities.

### **Let’s summarize**

When you were a child – you knew you were different from the other kids ... Maybe – not so much as a kid – but now looking back ... You realize the things I just mentioned really resonate with you in your spirit ... Let me toss one more thing ... Because you didn’t feel you fit in – you felt more comfortable being alone or maybe just hanging with one / two other people ... You didn’t feel really comfortable in big crowds

### **TAKE AWAY**

Now – let’s address our other question - - Why is it important to know if you have been chosen from your mother’s womb? ... There are actually two reasons:

**First** – Not understand this reality has led to many people carrying childhood traumas for years ... They allowed what God meant for spiritual equipping and training – to be used by the devil – through ignorance – to create trauma in their life ... I don’t know about you – but I never had these two scriptures shared with me as a child

### **Jeremiah 29:11 The Voice**

For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Eternal, “plans for peace, not evil, to give you a future and hope—never forget that.

### **Romans 8:28 New Living Translation**

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them.

**Second** – Understanding that you have been chosen – should shift your perception and purpose for life... You now understand that you were not just randomly born because of an action of your parents ... That your life was not just a random set of circumstances that you had to live through ... That you are a chosen vessel of Almighty God – sent to earth at this time – to accomplish great things for the advancement of His Kingdom and for His glory.

Now – if what I have shared bears witness with your spirit ... If you now understand that God has chosen you from your mother's womb and appointed you as His anointed vessel ... What should you do?

### **Acknowledge this truth and Thank God**

You can simply speak to the Lord – thanking Him for shaping you at an early age ... Telling Him that you now realize that your childhood hardships were not because you were bad or doing wrong – but they were His training ground for you ... If you are still dealing with childhood trauma – then simply give it to the Lord ... Forgive those that you are holding ought against ... Ask the Lord to remove the pain of the trauma and replace it with His peace

### **Ask God to show you how to use these qualities that He instilled in you - Now**

Consider how you can use these qualities to strengthen your community ... Ask the Lord for guidance and insights to be effective in developing those around you

### **TAKE AWAY**

Now – let me quickly touch on this point ... What if you do not think you are chosen ... Does that make you any less than those who are? ... No – it just places you into another category – the called ... The Spirit is calling you to follow Him and His leading in your life ... Let me say it this way and I hope you catch it but the Spirit ... The called have a choice in how far and deep they want to go into the things of the Spirit.

The chosen really don't have a choice.

**1 Corinthians 9:16 New Living Translation**

Yet preaching the Good News is not something I can boast about. ... **I am compelled by God to do it.** ... How terrible for me if I didn't preach the Good News!

### **Titus 1:1 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition**

Paul, - - **a bond servant of God** - - and an apostle (a special messenger) of Jesus Christ (the Messiah) - - to stimulate and promote the faith **of God's chosen ones** - - and to lead them on to accurate discernment and recognition of and acquaintance with the Truth which belongs to and harmonizes with and tends to godliness,

Regardless if you are Called – or Chosen ... Being in Christ – having the Spirit of the Living God – united with your spirit ... We have been created in Christ unto good works ... There is a world out there that needs the person that you have become ...

### **Ephesians 2:10 New Living Translation**

For we are God's masterpiece. ... He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, - so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago.