



A black and white photograph of a small seedling with two leaves growing out of dark, textured soil. The seedling is positioned on the left side of the frame, and the soil is in the foreground. The background is dark and out of focus.

# **Power of God's Calling You**

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A teal parallelogram is positioned in the upper left. Below it, a green triangle and a yellow triangle are placed side-by-side.

**Am I one of the  
Chosen?**

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# Agenda

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- What does it mean to be Elect?
- Elect – Chosen - Faithful
- How Does God Call Me?
- How Do I Respond to God's Call?
- Final tips & takeaways – Your Choice





"Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, according to the **foreknowledge** of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with **his blood**: May grace and peace be multiplied to you." (1 Peter 1:1 – 2)

# How Do We Know God's Will?

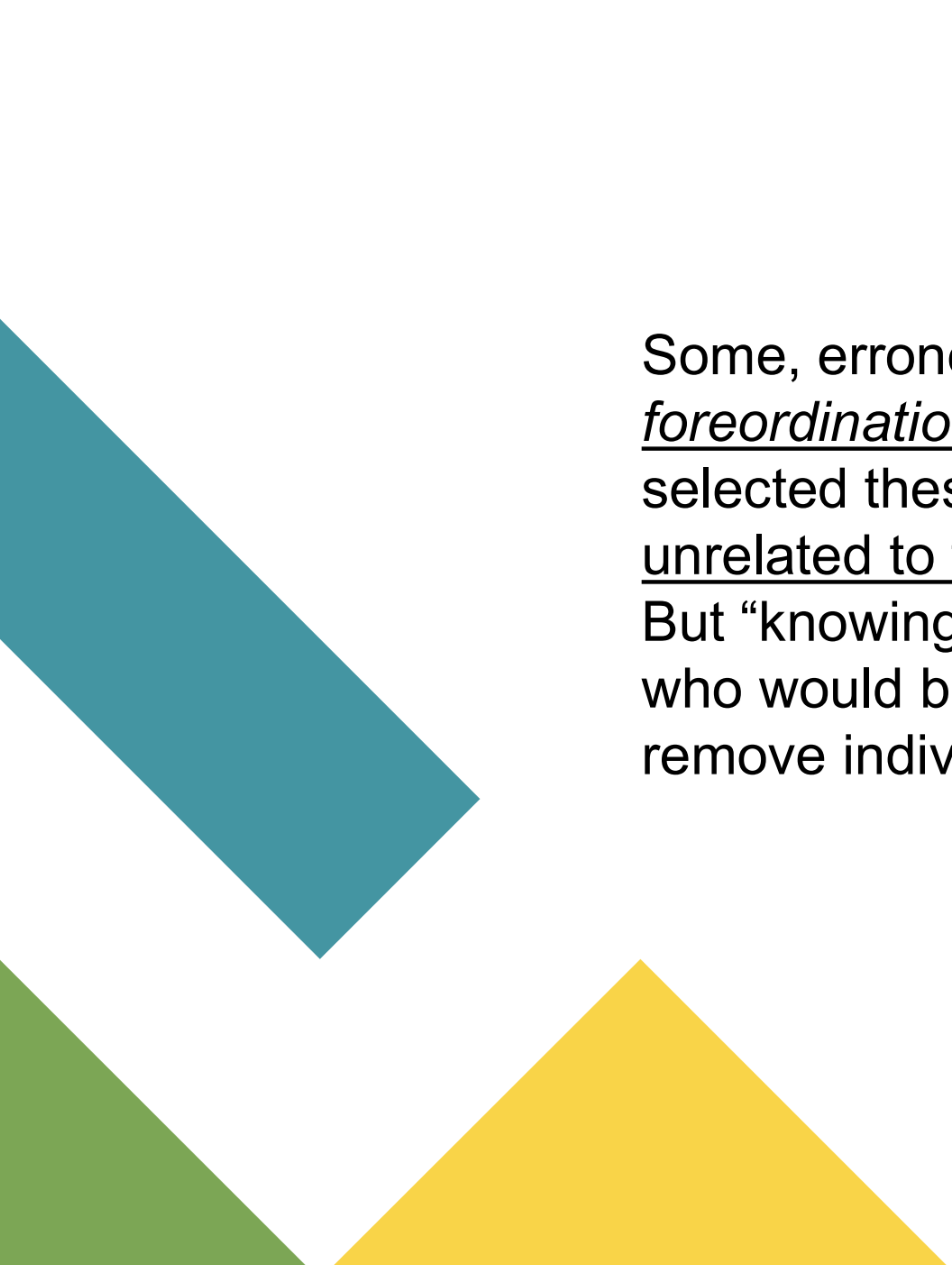
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- “assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit.”(Eph. 3:2-5).

# Elect – Chosen - Called



- “For many are called, but few are *chosen*” (Mt. 22:14).
- “But for the *elect*’s sake those days shall be shortened” (Mt. 24:22).
- Rev. 17:14 “They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are **called and chosen and faithful.**” (ESV)



Some, erroneously equating foreknowledge with foreordination, have concluded that God selected these *individuals* apart from and unrelated to their faith and response to His call. But “knowing” ahead of time (as Christ foreknew who would betray Him - Mt. 26:21,22) does not remove individual responsibility to God.

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Foreknowledge and Foreordain?

(1 Peter 1:2) “according to the foreknowledge of God”



# How Do We Know God's Will?

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- 22 “Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,
- 1Pe 1:23 since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; ...
- 1Pe 1:25 but the word of the Lord remains forever. And this word is the good news that was preached to you.”

# How Do We Know God's Will?

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- “But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by *the* Spirit and belief in *the* truth. 2:14 To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
- 2 Thess 2:13 -14

# God's People - Light or Darkness?



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- 1 Peter 2:9 “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a **people for his own possession**, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.
- 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are **God's people**; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”

1. Then *those who gladly received his word* were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added unto them” (Ac. 2:40).
2. “Every spiritual blessing is in Christ” (1:3)

2 Timothy 1:8 – 9 “Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, 9 **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,”**



## The Need to Heed

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# God wants everyone to be saved.

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- “Whosoever will may come.”
- Matthew 28:18 - 20
- “not willing that any should perish [hence, a universal call] but that all should come to repentance”
- 2 Peter 3:9

# People of God are not Puppets

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Not: Condemned by a depravity inherited from Adam.

- Unconditionally elected.
- To be among the “limited” number for whom Christ died.
- Saved (or lost) by an irresistible force (*that makes God partial — a respecter of persons*).
- Preserved, regardless of the individual’s rebellion against God’s will.

- **love and glorification** sought by God and essential to His purpose in creating humans demands a **free-will response** of humans to His will.

# God's calling. Are you choosing Him?

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“Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your **calling and election**, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

(2 Peter 1:10 -11)

