

Election and Evangelism

Why should we evangelize if all the elect are guaranteed to come to Christ?

- 1. God commands us to (Matthew 28:18-20)
 - The fact that God commands us to should be enough
 - God rewards obedience to His commands (1 Corinthians 9:16-17)
- 2. God wants to work through our evangelism
 - For His glory (2 Corinthians 4:7, 12:7-9)
 - For relationship (John 15:15, 5:17)
- 3. God still wants the non-elect to hear the gospel (Ezekiel 3:4-11)
 - Why does God still want them to hear even though they won't listen?
 - Jesus prefers people be either hot or cold rather than Lukewarm (Revelation 3:14-16)
 - God would rather people fully accept the gospel or outright reject the gospel, then to be ignorant of it or indifferent towards it
 - God's glory is show more clearly when people aren't lukewarm, either the glory of His mercy, or the glory of His justice
 - 2. God wants to display His mercy in the gospel being offered to those who will still reject it
 - Jeremiah 26:1-3, 36:1-3

Why should we pray for people to get saved if all the elect are guaranteed to come to Christ?

- 1. God commands us to (1 Timothy 2:1-4)
 - That fact that God commands it should be enough
 - God rewards obedience to His commands (Matthew 6:5-6; Colossians 4:12)
- 2. God wants to work through prayer
 - For relationship
 - For His glory

How should the doctrine of election affect our evangelism?

Three effects it should have

- 1. We should have desire to share, but not have overwhelming fear of failure
- 2. We should focus on prayer
 - Only God can save a person (John 6:44)
 - We know God wants to work through prayer (we know He's glorified by it)
- 3. We should focus our efforts on where we see God drawing people (Mark 6:7-13; Matthew 19:16-23)

Three effects it shouldn't have

- 1. It shouldn't cause us to not share (Acts 20:25-27, 18:5-6; Ezekiel 33:7-9)
 - So anyways, I say all that to say that the doctrine of election should not keep us from sharing the gospel. It sure didn't for Paul...
- 2. It shouldn't cause us to lack compassion
 - God doesn't lack compassion for the non-elect (Jeremiah 48:29-33; Luke 19:41-44)
 - Paul's unceasing pain (Romans 9:1-5)
- 3. It shouldn't cause us to be discouraged

Conclusion

- We should be seeking to share the gospel
- We should be praying for people to receive Christ