Humanity's Role in Salvation

By Craig Amundson

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How Does God Give Revelation to Man?

Man may subjectively experience with certainty what is not revealed in scripture.[1]

1 Corinthians 4:6

Man claims to certainly know what God has not revealed in scripture.[1]

Deuteronomy 29:29

Man claims that God does not certainly know all that is hidden. [1]

John 16:30

Scripture contains all that God has objectively chosen to reveal as certain. [1]

2 Peter 1:19-21

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How Is Salvation Obtained?

- **Given through the Gospel by the Holy Spirit**
  - **Monergism** (Greek *mono* meaning "one" and *erg* meaning "work") is a term for the belief that the Holy Spirit is the only agent who effects regeneration of Christians. [2]
- **Gospel + "something" = Salvation**
  - **Synergism** (Greek *syn* meaning "together" and *erg* meaning "work") in general, may be defined as two or more agents working together to produce a result not obtainable by any of the agents independently. [3]

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Does Man Have Ability?

<u>Ephesians 2:8-10</u>

[8]For by Grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, [9]not of works lest anyone should boast. [10]For we are of His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. (NKJ)

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Does Man Have Ability?

Romans 3:10-12
10As it is written: There is none righteous, no, not one; 11There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. 12They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one. (NKJ)

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Does Man Have Ability?

John 1:12-13
12But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe His name: 13who were born not of blood, nor the will of the flesh, nor the will of man, but of God.(NKJ)

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Can God Be Foiled?

Job 23:13
But He is unique, and who can make Him change? And whatever His soul desires, that He does. (NKJ)

Psalm 135:6
Whatever the LORD pleases He does, in heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all the deep places. (NKJ)

Romans 11:29
For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. (NKJ)

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Can God Be Foiled?

Isaiah 55:11
So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. (NKJ)

Daniel 4:35
All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, "What have you done?" (NKJ)

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The Holy Spirit's Role

John 16:7-11

7Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. 8And when He has come, He will convict the world 9of sin, because they do not believe in me; 10of righteousness because I go to My Father and you will see me no more; 11of judgment because the ruler of this world is judged.(NKJ)

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The Holy Spirit's Role

1 Corinthians 2:10, 14

10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God…14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. (NKJ)

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The Holy Spirit's Role

Romans 8:5-8

5For this who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6For the be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. 8So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. (NKJ)

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Predestined

- **Proorizo** - (´ɟ ɞɞɟ ɟɞɞ) - to predetermine, to decide beforehand[4]

Romans 8:28-30

28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. 29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. (NKJ)

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Predestined

Ephesians 1:4-5

[4]Just as he chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, [5] having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself according to the good pleasure of His will.(NKJ)

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Chosen

- **Eklego** - (ἐκλέγω) – I pick out for myself, choose, elect, select.[5]

John 15:16

[16] You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you. (NKJ)

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Chosen

Ephesians 1:4

[4]Just as he chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love (NKJ)

1 Thessalonians 1:4

[4] knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God. (NKJ)

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Chosen

- **Haireomai** – (αἱρέω) – to take for oneself, to prefer choose.[6]

2Thessalonians 2:13

[13] But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. (NKJ)

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Elect

- **Eklektos** – (Ůə-Ůə-Ůĕ ●ï picked out, chosen[7]

Matthew 22:14
[14] "For many are called, but few are chosen." (NKJ)

Romans 8:33
[33] Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. (NKJ)

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Elect

Colossians 3:12
[12] Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; (NKJ)

1 Peter 2:9
[9] But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; (NKJ)

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Is God Unloving?

John 15:13
[13] Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.(NKJ)

1 John 3:16
[16] By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.(NKJ)

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Is God Unloving?

Å**What has God done for us?**

- ÅHe humbled Himself by being born of a virgin in the likeness of sinful man
- ÅHe lived a perfect and sinless life despite all the evil around Him
- ÅHe died on the cross to pay for the sins of those who repent
- ÅHe was bodily raised from the dead on the 3rd day as proof that He as victorious over sin and death
- ÅHe bodily ascended into heaven where He makes intersession for those who have repented and believe
- ÅHe will be coming again to permanently do away with sin for all eternity

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What does it mean for us?

- If you believe be thankful that God chose you!

2 Corinthians 9:15
Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! (NKJ)

Romans 6:17
But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. *(NKJ)*

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What does it mean for us?

- How will people be saved if we do not share the Gospel?

Romans 10:14-17

14 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him
whom they have not heard? 15 And how shall they hear
without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless
they are sent? As it is written: "*How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!*" 16 But they have not
all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "LORD, who has
believed our report?" 17 So then faith comes by hearing
and hearing by the word of God. (NKJ)

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