

## Ephesians 1:4-6

**“According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.”**

**The next few scriptures that we are going to discuss have been greatly misinterpreted. Many people use this scripture as a basis for not serving God by saying that he has already chosen who would be saved and who would not be saved. This is a gross misunderstanding of what Paul is relating here.**

**Remember that Paul is speaking to the church of Ephesus, who were Gentiles. They were not of Jewish decent but were Gentiles that had been saved. In this scripture Paul is relating that not SPECIFIC people had been chosen but the Gentile race had been chosen to be saved. He is explaining that before Genesis 1:1 and the foundations of the world were laid that God had already foreseen the fall of man, sins destruction and the fact that not only would the Jewish nation need to be saved but the Gentiles would need a plan of salvation and inclusion into the Kingdom of God as well. The reason the Jewish nation received it first was that they were chosen (through Abraham and his seed) to maintain, protect and proliferate the gospel. That is why God called Abraham OUT, that is why he told the children of Israel that they had to maintain a separation from the world – because He needed them to remain pure so that the doctrine/gospel that was passed down generation to generation would be pure and unblemish. But He was also able to foresee that there was going to have to be a time**

and a place where the Gentile nation was adopted into this family and given the same opportunity of salvation as well.

It is wonderful to know that according to Ephesians 1:4 that we were also chosen before the foundation of the world. Paul wanted the Ephesians to understand that they were not an “after thought” in the mind of God. God didn’t wait until right before Peter preached to Cornelius (Acts 10) to include the Gentiles in the plan of salvation but had in fact thought of them before He ever created the first thing.

Isaiah 49:6 fore tells of Jesus who will be a “light to the Gentiles” that He may be their salvation until the end of the earth. Even that far back God made known that there was a plan to include the Gentile nation in the plan of salvation that He had created.

All of these verses in Ephesians 1:4-6 are telling the Ephesian church that they were not just a footnote in the pages of God’s book but were a part of the index. They were pre-ordained from the beginning of the world to be included and given an opportunity to partake of salvation and all the blessings of God. He made a way, where through obedience to the plan, we become the spiritual seed of Abraham. Read Galatians 3:6-9. Paul once again reiterates this point regarding the promise made to Abraham was not just for his seed. In fact the Lord told Abraham that through him “ALL the NATIONS of the world would be blessed.” Continue reading Galatians 3:14-16. Paul is telling us that we, the Gentiles, are made one with the Jews through the promises of Abraham and his faithfulness. Read Galatians 3:26-29. Through our faith in Jesus Christ and our obedience to the plan of salvation, we, the Gentiles, become the spiritual seed of Abraham and that makes us all a part of the same family. We are no longer Greek or Gentile or Jew but rather the children of

**God and because of this we have access to all the promises that were made to Abraham.**

**What a miracle that were not an after thought in God's eternal, divine plan but He gave us as much thought as He did the Jews. He realized that we would need Him to be our Savior as well and He placed an addendum in His plan for just a need. Don't let people tell you that this scripture means that God already planned which individual would be saved. That is not true - we were all given a free will and a mind to use to make a choice. All this scripture is telling us is that the Gentile race was thought of and included in the plan of salvation from the beginning of the world. Galatians 4:1-7 sums it all up in the fact that we are no longer a servant but a son and because of that we can call him, "Abba, Father" and we are also heirs of ALL the promises of God.**