



**T.U.L.I.P.**  
**Wk. 2 Unconditional Election**  
**By Pastor Jody May 11/06/2022**

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**Romans 8:28-30 ESV**

<sup>28</sup> And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the **firstborn among many brothers**. <sup>30</sup> And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

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**[INTRODUCTION – How do you increase greatness?]**

The **Westminster Shorter Catechism** has one thing I wish the Baptist Catechism had and that is that it starts off with a first things first kind of statement:<sup>1</sup>

**Q. 1. What is the chief end of man?**

A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, [a] and to enjoy him forever. [b]

[a]. [Ps. 86:9](#); [Isa. 60:21](#); [Rom. 11:36](#); [1 Cor. 6:20](#); [10:31](#); Rev. 4:11

[b]. [Ps. 16:5-11](#); [144:15](#); [Isa. 12:2](#); [Luke 2:10](#); [Phil. 4:4](#); Rev. 21:3-4

The Bible points to this belief in several areas, and as a matter of fact, after studying the scripture the conclusion you should come to is that this story/life is not about you it is about God.

The **Baptists Catechism** first question starts with why man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever:

1. **Q.** Who is the first and chiefest being?

**A.** God is the first and chiefest being. ([Is. 44:6](#); [48:12](#); [Ps. 97:9](#)).

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.apuritansmind.com/westminster-standards/shorter-catechism/>



**T.U.L.I.P.**  
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---

Scripture illustrates that God is the chiefest being and therefore God is in the business of uplifting, magnifying, and glorifying Himself. You and I need to be ok with it and accept it for **if He lacks the desire** to do that, He's not God or at least He's not a God worth following.

When you are the chiefest of all beings what can you do to bring attention to yourself that you have not done already? When you have done everything right, when you created the world and saw that all things are good, what do you do now? How do you perfect that which is was made perfectly? How do you magnify that which is already magnified? How do you bring Glory to that which is Glorious? Let me give an example to get the ball rolling.

**[ILLUSTRATION / It's all in a name ]**

There is a time in everyone's life where you become more, and I don't mean gaining weight, post education, or adding years to your life. No, it happens in an instant, it can't be undone, and you can't stop it. It is the natural but unreal experience of **growing a family**.

It starts when two people come together, when there is a God-honoring submission that takes place, and a young woman takes on the name of her betrothed. Up to that point a young man has been living as a representative of his family name on his own, bringing glory to it the best he can. In the space of time, it takes someone to say, "*I now pronounce you man and wife*" it changes and where the work of one person was involved now there is two. It has doubled and the glory of that man, the weight and worth that his name brings, multiplies and now that name has gained in glory.

Then, by honoring God and in obedience of God's command to be fruitful and multiple, if they are so blessed, they work to bring another name bearer in the world and were there were just two there are now 3. And as you can imagine the more children that are birthed to this family the greater the amount of glory will be added to that name. The formula is simple **increase the amount of name bearers**, then you provide opportunities to make lasting memories and what you get in return is man-made glory.



**T.U.L.I.P.**  
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This my family, is the exact same way it works for God. What do you do for the being that has everything and has made everything good? How does God magnify a name that is above all names? Simple, he **adds to His eternal family** from those that He has called to His family and in doing so the glory that those earthly names are receiving are now directly tied to the glory of God their true Father. God's magnification and glorification is tied directly to the family He's making here on earth. As great as the Universe was in the beginning before sin, all the greater it will be after a fulfilled restoration brought in by His Son with the millions of children, He has brought forth through His bride the church.

In this process of glorifying Himself through addition we are going to look at today how God makes this happen, we are coming to the second letter in the acronym TULIP and that is the U for **Unconditional Election**.

	5 Points of Arminianism	5 Points of Calvinism
Please show the comparison chart 1 <sup>st</sup> so I can review where we are at.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Human Free Will / Human Ability</li> <li>2. Conditional Election</li> <li>3. Universal Redemption / General Atonement</li> <li>4. Resistible Grace</li> <li>5. Fall from Grace</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Total Depravity / Total Inability</li> <li>2. Unconditional Election</li> <li>3. Limited Atonement / Particular Redemption</li> <li>4. Irresistible Grace</li> <li>5. Perseverance of the Saints</li> </ol>

**2. Conditional Election**

God's choice of certain individuals unto salvation before the foundation of the world was based upon His foreseeing that they would respond to His call. He selected only those whom He knew would of themselves freely believe the gospel. Election therefore was determined by or conditioned upon what man would do. The faith which God foresaw and upon which He based His choice was not given to the sinner by God (it was not created by the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit) but resulted solely from man's will. It was left entirely up to man as to who would believe and therefore as to who would be elected unto salvation. God chose those whom He knew would, of their own free will, choose Christ. Thus the sinner's choice of Christ, not God's choice of the sinner, is the ultimate cause of salvation.

**2. Unconditional Election**

God's choice of certain individuals unto salvation before the foundation of the world rested solely in His own sovereign will. His choice of particular sinners was not based on any foreseen response or obedience on their part, such as faith, repentance, etc. On the contrary, God gives faith and repentance to each individual whom He selected. These acts are the result, not the cause of God's choice. Election therefore was not determined by or conditioned upon any virtuous quality or act foreseen in man. Those whom God sovereignly elected He brings through the power of the Spirit to a willing acceptance of Christ. Thus God's choice of the sinner, not the sinner's choice of Christ, is the ultimate cause of salvation.



**T.U.L.I.P.**  
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---

So, if God's chief aim is to glorify Himself then would it make sense that God would allow man the choice to follow Him, to choose to accept Christ? The answer would be **NO, because**, what we already know is that man is Totally Depraved/ Spiritually Dead, man can't do that! That would totally not make any sense at all, as a matter of fact it would show that God is not the chief of all beings in the Universe because He can be denied if man wills it. So, then what is the plan of increasing God's Glory in this universe? The key to this answer is in the HOW...

**Main Point:**

**Unconditional Election establishes and protects the Family of God.**

**Romans 8:28-30 ESV**

<sup>28</sup> And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the **firstborn among many brothers**. <sup>30</sup> And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

**[PRAY]**

1. The purpose of an Unconditional Election is to **BUILD** God's Family.

God is constantly **working for the good** (v.28) of those that are called/the elect.

κλητος (*klētos*). adj. **called**. *Describes those who have been called.*

This adjective is related to the verb καλέω (*kaleō*, "to call") and is used in the NT only of those called by God (e.g., Matt 22:14). Those who respond to God's call in faith are called (*klētos*; Rom 1:7; 1 Cor 1:2, 24; Jude 1:1).<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Simmons, W. A. (2014). [Calling or Commission](#). D. Mangum, D. R. Brown, R. Klippenstein, & R. Hurst (Eds.), *Lexham Theological Wordbook*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.



**T.U.L.I.P.**  
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---

What is ultimately good for those that are called? It is the thing that they are **called TO** - there in v. 29 - **to become brothers of Christ**. "Brothers" is actually an inclusive term, not exclusionary, for the brothers would be heads of households, patriarchs overseeing their families, to **have many brothers is to have many families** including the women and children. God is working at having families that will image His Son, that the glory of the names that are being established here on earth are adding to God's name in all things!

**BTW** that is a blessing, when the work you do no longer has to come from a heart that feels it has to prove to God, or anyone else you want approval from, that you are worthy, but instead the work you now do proves God is ALL WORTHY! The gospel in changing you changes your work into good things in which God is pleased! **How did we receive such a blessing?**

<sup>29</sup> For those whom he **foreknew** he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son

This is where the true Arminian would say, "AHA!, see God knew who would accept Him!" **1<sup>st</sup>, Foresees**, does not mean God predetermined who He would call based on knowing how a person would choose Him or not. That is man trying to force on God's Word a meaning that is not there. Foresee simply means He knows of people and their stories before He ever creates them for, He is the creator of everyone's story!<sup>3</sup>

**2<sup>nd</sup>**, Paul clarifies God's Foreknowledge when He speaks of Jacob and Esau and His election of who would be the Patriarch of Israel:

**Romans 9:11 ESV**

<sup>11</sup> though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad (Jacob and Esau) — in order that God's purpose of election might continue, **not because of works** but because of him who calls—

God elected Jacob over Esau not because He saw what He would do but because God had already established His will before time, and had already laid a course for How Israel's' descendants would play out. **Election is not based**

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<sup>3</sup> <https://founders.org/library/1689-confession/chapter-3-gods-decree/>



**T.U.L.I.P.**  
**Wk. 2 Unconditional Election**  
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**on what you would do, it is based on what God wants to do....** Again, if it was based on what we want to do then none of us would make it for our Depravity prevents this as Paul points out – Rom. 3:10-11 <sup>10</sup>*as it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; <sup>11</sup>no one understands; no one seeks for God."* **So how does this work?**

<sup>30</sup> And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

That's so important to get! It is from our calling that we get to be saved – the predestined are people called by God to be justified (made right) and the justified are glorified – they are glorified because their families/names are now tied to God's and that means for eternity! **That news is what promotes Evangelism:** When mankind hears that they are not the one's working to get to God but that God is working to get to them, that is what makes people rejoice!

**Acts 13:48 ESV**

<sup>48</sup> And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed

God does the calling, God does the saving, and He does this, so He gets the credit not man, and He does this to build His family, and it is the glory of God's plan that calls man out of chasing glory for Himself, and decides rather to live a life trying to add to the glory of God, that is how any true worship is made!

**[RESPONSE]** Today family maybe your need is to stop questioning why God chose to work this way and **THANK GOD** for His Unconditional love. **UE** means that He surrenders His right to make you pay Justice, **UE** means He surrenders His right to hold you accountable, and **UE means** He surrenders His right not to be associated with you.

Instead, He chooses to pour His wrath on His Son, He chooses to have Him redeem you, and He chooses to be associated with you forever. Instead of focusing on what you don't get about election why don't you focus on worshipping Him for His love directed towards you that while you were still a



**T.U.L.I.P.**  
**Wk. 2 Unconditional Election**  
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---

sinner, Totally Depraved He loved you! Unconditional Election doesn't reveal an uncaring God it reveals a God who is steadfast in loving His people.

**Unconditional Election establishes and protects God's Family because God is the one that builds it!**

2. Building this Family is an act of **God's Grace** not our works.

**Ephesians 2:8-10 ESV**

<sup>8</sup>For by **grace** you have been saved through **faith**. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup>**not a result of works**, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

These are the backbone verses to explain to reformers/protestants alike that our **Faith is a gift**, that's why the belief of conditional election **does not work**. The gift you receive, by grace there in v.8 and grace means you did not earn it, **the gift IS FAITH**. You believe in God and choose to follow God not because you put enough facts together and willed it, it was given as a gift to you to bring you into the family. WHY? So, you cannot boast about it! If you boast about it, it brings you glory not God, remember He is chief and it is our responsibility to glorify Him and enjoy Him forever!

V.10 says we are God's workmanship, His creation, made in Christ for good works, planned out before our Salvation, so that as a new member of His family our works now go to His credit not ours. It builds God's name not ours. We contribute to God's Glory not by works planned by our will but by God's will established before creation so that God's Glory grows. That's the story you should share!

Let me remind us of what we learned last week:

**Ephesians 2:4-5 ESV**

<sup>4</sup>**BUT GOD**, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup>even **when we were dead in our trespasses**, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—





**T.U.L.I.P.**  
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---

### **Dead men don't choose anything....**

Our children did not choose to come into this world, and when they did enter into this world, they did not choose to feed themselves, they did not choose to clothe themselves, they did not choose their bedtimes, AND if not for you they would be dead! If it was not for your will to bring them into this world they would not exist. Why then would people find unconditional election hard to believe, we do not choose to be a child of God, God does the choosing, God does the training, for we have good works to do, all to the Gory of the Father!

More importantly, if God is the chiefest of all beings, then God's family must look like the Son, and the Son always directs praise back to the Father, and so we too must do the same and direct praise to the Father! The job to reflect Jesus is too much of a valuable thing to leave to chance. Jesus knew this:

#### **John 6:43-44 ESV**

<sup>43</sup> Jesus answered them, "Do not grumble among yourselves. <sup>44</sup> No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me **draws him**. And I will raise him up on the last day.

To "**draw**" is the picture of physical manipulation in the Greek. No one comes to Jesus willingly; we saw that last week. The Father brings us into this family before we ever knew we wanted to be in it. Yes, the Father's will works **against the will of their children** to save them. Answer me this, would any of us in this room not risk offending your kid's sense of freedom if it meant you could save them? I know right, none of you, and God is the same way.

**[Illustration]** I heard in an interview with Newt Gingrich this past week that for the past two generations of parents they had fallen into the lie that their **teenagers should like them**.<sup>4</sup> That they went along with the idea that if their offspring liked them, it must mean that they were doing a good job. That is what you are seeing now in our world, parents controlled by mood swings, helicopter parents always swooping down to save their kids, parents signing

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<sup>4</sup> <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-jordan-b-peterson-podcast/id1184022695?i=1000584560765>





**T.U.L.I.P.**  
**Wk. 2 Unconditional Election**  
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---

off on the gender mutilation of their kids, parents dragging their scared kids to drag queen shows to indoctrinate them, **all for the chance to hear that their children love them and think their cool.** I have got news for you, teenagers, no matter what you do, do not think your cool because **cool is only used to describe a time frame for 10-20 year-olds.** What we have is a bunch of ungrown, underdeveloped, mentally challenged people living as a child through their kids eyes, not wanting to be grown up and face the demons of this world! That's a mental disorder and we have millions of them in the United States and no one has the courage to tell them!

**The good thing** not the cool thing is when parents drag their kids from danger, when they let them loose at games, when they let them experience disappointment, when they push them back out to try again, and they keep interjecting themselves into their child's life for they **truly believe they know better than that kid!** You see our Heavenly Father knows this and that is why He will always DRAW us to Him and He is so good in this process that no disaster in our lives goes to waste, He will use it to change you so that you see you need Him!

**Unconditional Election is an act of GRACE that bring a Gift of Faith for that is how God establishes and protects His family!**

Today, perhaps where you need to repent is because you are dragging your heels in this process. Listen let me encourage you with something, instead of trying to fix every sin in your life and getting disappointed let me point you in a positive direction. Focus on loving Christ and loving others for that is where you will begin to stop sinning. Sin is our work in loving ourselves more than God. If you have a persistent sin let me implore with you, whatever that is, try replacing it with time and energy spent in loving people in this room and you will literally watch your heart change. That's the secret to good parenting to, focus on loving your kids to make them have a name that reflects God, and I guarantee you, you will stop worrying about whether they think your cool or not!

You may think you're not equipped to live like this, loving others more than yourself. It may be you just don't know how equipped you are yet. Let me help



**T.U.L.I.P.**  
**Wk. 2 Unconditional Election**  
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---

you this way by helping us realize how you have been equipped to do this already by trusting God's Word not our emotive thoughts:

3. Building this Family by Grace gives you **every spiritual blessing** you are to have.

### **Ephesians 1:3-6 ESV**

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with **every spiritual blessing** in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup> he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

When God saves us it's not just barely, it is always completely and fully, giving us every Spiritual Blessing Available:<sup>5</sup>

Unconditional Election (v.4) – being chosen before the world means our Salvation was not based on our works but by God's Grace – that brings you true freedom.

Holiness (v.4) – God will continually work towards making us separate from the world by God's work he has freed you from being like this world.

Blameless (v.4)– To be redeemed, bought back, sin paid for, now no sense of foreboding or condemnation at a coming judgment.

Adoption (v.5) – You are brought into a family and once you are brought in you can't take yourself out, shared inheritance.

Presence of the HS (1:13), You are never alone and God is continually with you again setting you up for the works you were called to do.

Those things are not earned they are given through God's ability and desire to make a family so when you realize those blessings, He receives the Glory. Because God elects to give them to you, you are given these things fully as every other person is given, things are not withheld in measure but are doled out in full measure.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.gotquestions.org/spiritual-blessings.html>



**T.U.L.I.P.**  
**Wk. 2 Unconditional Election**  
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**MP - Unconditional Election Establishes and Protects God's Family because it brings to you everything you will ever need. Not scrimping or withholding no good thing from you.**

**[CHALLENGE/APPLICATION]**

Gon unconditionally saves us because God has a plan that when we are sinners we don't want to participate in:

**Ephesians 1:10 ESV**

<sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

Unconditional Election ensures that God's plans to Unite all things in Christ comes to pass. It's not your story, even though it is part, but it is God's story.

There is a plan for when the time is right and all that God has set out to do has come to pass, and **THEN He will unite all things in Christ.** All of History, all events will point to and exalt Christ as above all. To bring that plan to completion is to bring His children into life, election is a part of God's ultimate plan, to show that **Jesus did save the Father's children.** It won't be refuted, it will show the world His sacrifice was worth it, His power enabled it, Hell couldn't stop it, and all will not be able to turn their eyes from it.

**Unconditional Election ensures all of that!**

What we will see, on that day, is that the Glory of God has been added to over and over again, and what establishes God as the chiefest of all beings is when there is a race of His children enjoying Him forever adding the glory of their earthly names, that were lived for Him, to His credit.

Today I want to give a very passionate plea, if you have an inclination to follow Christ today, don't drag your feet, that is Him calling to you today. Come and be a part of this family, come and be a part of His work, come and be absolved of all your sins, come and give God glory Today!



**T.U.L.I.P.**  
**Wk. 2 Unconditional Election**  
**By Pastor Jody May 11/06/2022**

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**[PRAYER]**

**[COMMUNION]**

**[BENEDICTION]**

Go in the name of the Father, that before time knew us and planned out our Salvation.

Go in the name of the Son, that is constantly working to ensure that not one of His family will be lost so we all can stand with Him on that day of reckoning.

Go in the name and power of the Holy Spirit, that awakens us to the drawing of God and empowers us with affection to tell others how we were found.