

What is the proper way to view the doctrine of election?

- Before He created the world, God predestinated that all who receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior will be saved, and all who reject Jesus as their Lord and Savior will be damned.

Did God choose who is going to be saved and who is going to be lost? Yes! God created the plan of salvation and ensures every human being is judged according to His plan. Those who choose to receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior are forgiven of all their sins and given eternal life in Heaven. Those who choose to reject Jesus as their Lord and Savior are not forgiven of their sins and will be cast into the Lake of Fire. That is God's sovereign plan of salvation (John 3:16-18, 36).

3rd – Paul is thankful for the Thessalonians following the Lord.

Vs. 6b

Paul rejoiced that the Thessalonians had given up their pagan lifestyles and imitated Paul, Silas, Timothy, and, most importantly, Jesus. They were living for Christ in an anti-Christian city!

4th – Paul is thankful for the Thessalonians' example to other believers.

Vs. 7-10

The Thessalonians were examples to all the other believers in Greece. The Church at Thessalonica was a blueprint for other churches. They were sharing their faith with others. And they were looking forward to the return of Jesus – the one who rescued us from condemnation (Romans 5:1; 8:1-2)!

The Takeaway...

The church in Thessalonica was exemplary! The church was working, witnessing, and waiting for Jesus! Every Christian church should strive to be like the Thessalonian church.