

## IN HIS MERCY, GOD CHOSE YOU

Romans 9-11

### Awareness

Before listening, reflect:

- What thoughts or feelings come to mind when you hear the word predestination?
- How do Christians come to faith?

God's mercy and grace are at the heart of God's choices. So what is there left for us to do? Romans 9-11 outlines how we respond to God's grace through sharing the good news so that all who God has chosen will come to faith in Jesus Christ. God chooses us in predestination and God wants us to choose him as well. Plus, even when the mystery of salvation leaves us at our wit's end like it did for Paul, we too can choose to praise and give glory to God for his wisdom.

**Listen:** [\*In His Mercy, God Chose You\*](#)

### Reflection

After listening, consider:

- In segment 1, host Darrell Delaney offers this definition of predestination: "God had a purpose and a plan that he set in place, and he makes the sovereign choice; not based on what [humans] are going to do; not based on who [any one] is going to be; but because he chose. He chose because he chose." As Scripture testifies to it and Darrell summarizes it, predestination is meant to be a comfort to us. How so? Do you find it comforting? Why or why not?
- If you could have joined Darrell's conversation with host Scott Hoezee about whether or not predestination is *fair*, what would you have added or asked?
- Scott says that Romans 10 calls us to be preachers who proclaim what we confess and believe. Even if you aren't a pastor who preaches on Sunday mornings, how can you preach and bring the good news?
- Are there people that you hope will come to faith like Paul hoped for his fellow Jews? How are you sharing your faith with them? What do you pray for them?
- Though God chose us first, he also wants us to choose him. In segment 3, Darrell and Scott describe the tension between human free will and God's all-powerfulness, as a mystery. How do you explain or make sense of this mystery? Scott makes a distinction that "God actively chooses whom he saves, but he doesn't actively damn the others, he just lets them be" Do you find that helpful for understanding the tension? Why or why not?

### Related Passages

- **Isaiah 52:7-10**
- **1 Kings 19:9-18**

- **Romans 1:21-25**
- **Revelation 7**

## **Conclusion**

God's family tree includes all those who have faith in Jesus Christ as Lord. This crosses denominational lines and is filled with people of different ethnicities and cultures, economic backgrounds, physical and mental abilities, and criminal records or lists of accomplishments. Read Revelation 7 and join in the heavenly worship and praise God with all those whom God has marked with God's seal of salvation.

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<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/in-his-mercy-god-chose-you>

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