

One- The mystery of wills.

Sermon Notes

September 19, 2021

Review:

- We were chosen before the creation of the world—it's always been.
- We were predestined to be adopted heirs—first born!
- In love because of Christ, we are seen by God as holy and blameless.

Armenianism- A theological stream that believes that we as human beings have free will and that God's sovereignty does not control all events on earth.

Reformed- also known as Calvinism is a theological tradition that emphasizes the sovereignty of God in all things, man's inability do spiritual good before God, and the glory of God as the highest end of all that occurs. Grudem

Mystery—How does God's will and our will intersect with two seemingly incompatible biblical truths: God is Sovereign, and man has a free will.

Indisputable Truths

1. God is sovereign and his will always prevails. **Gen. 50:20; Job 34:14-15; Neh. 9:6; Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3; Eph. 1:11**
2. If left to us, we would never will for or have faith in God. **Phil. 2:13; Eph. 2:8**
3. Man makes choices of will that grieve and please God. **Isa. 66:3-4; Rom. 12:1-2**

Pray

Read **Ephesians 1:3-12**

Redeemed- we are released from the penalties of our sins. (7)

- Redeemed/Redemption is a setting free from an earned bondage.
- The payment in this case was blood—Jesus Christ a perfect lamb.

- Results in our sins being forgiven—seen by God as holy and blameless!
- “according to” *κατα*– Conforming to a standard or becoming like the standard, coming into alignment. To the fullest “*measure*” of the vast riches of his grace it was *lavished* on us. BKC
 - He did not hold back, he spent silly! (8a)

The mystery of God’s will is revealed in Christ. (9)

- *mystery* (def)- literally means “something into which one must be initiated before it is fully known...[or] above our comprehension” Barnes
- Having wisdom and understanding of the gospel reveals God’s pleasure over you. (8b-9)
- It pleases God greatly for you to know him more.

Full understanding will come in time. (10)

- This happens at the second coming of Christ, he will set up his kingdom here on earth.
- Conveys that some things about God’s will will remain a mystery until this time.

God has a plan, and you are part of it! (11)

- He chose you as part of the fulfillment of his purposes.
- God is weaving a tapestry of people to bring about the entirety of his plan.

Those who hope in Christ exist “*for the praise of his glory.*” (12)