

Called and Chosen

“For many are called, but few are chosen.” (Matthew 22:14)

Called (klētoi): *invited, i.e. appointed*

Chosen (eklektoi): *select; by implication, favorite*

God's Call

Genesis 3:6-9 – “(6) ...she [*Eve*] took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. (7) Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. (8) And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. (9) But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, ‘Where are you?’”

Revelation 14:6 – “Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people.”

From Called to Chosen

Exodus 19:5-6; 32:26, 29 – “(5) Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; (6) and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation... ”
(26) then Moses stood in the gate of the camp and said, “Who is on the Lord’s side? Come to me.” And all the sons of Levi gathered around him. ... (29) And Moses said, “Today you have been ordained for the service of the Lord... ”

Judges 6:27 – (27) So Gideon took ten men of his servants and did as the Lord had told him. But because he was too afraid of his family and the men of the town to do it by day, he did it by night.”

Matthew 22:2-3, 8-9 – “(2) ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, (3) and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. ... (8) Then he said to his servants, “The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. (9) Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.”

Revelation 17:14 – “(1) ...for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.”

Chosen to be Holy and to Glorify God

Exodus 19:5-6 – “(5) Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; (6) and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. ...”

Ephesians 1:4 – “(4) even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. ...”

1 Peter 2:9, 12 – “(9) But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ... (12) Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.”

Chosen to Belong, to Love, and to Be Loved

1 Corinthians 12:18, 25 – “(18) But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ... (25) that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.”

Romans 12:5 – “(5) so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.”

Ephesians 4:15-16 – “(15) Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, (16) from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”

1 John 3:23 – “(23) And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.”

(John 13:34-35; John 15:12-17; Romans 12:1; 1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 3:11, 4:7-12)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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