

**Q AND A GAMMA
EPHESIANS**

QUESTION 1

1. Calvinism is typically associated with the 5 points abbreviated as TULIP, is all 5 points biblical and what is your thoughts on Amyraldism (4-point calvinism) / thoughts on "Limited Atonement" as opposed to "Unlimited Atonement"

CALVINISM

1. Total depravity

2. Unconditional election



4. Irresistible grace

5. Perseverance of the saints

Amyraldianism

- John Cameron (1580–1625).
- Moise Amyraut (1596–1664),

1 Timothy 2:3-6 (ESV) This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

John 3:16-19 (ESV) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

CALVIN VS MOISE AMYRAUT

Jesus come to earth to die only the sins of those who would trust in Him

Limited Atonement

Jesus come to die for the sins of the whole world

Unlimited Atonement

Amyraldianism

Human will capable of making such a response. Moral level impossible
-debilitating effects of sin.

GOD



Wills the salvation of all men
on condition of faith

Contradiction of wills

Wills the salvation of the
elect unconditionally and
specifically

GOD'S COUNSEL, HIS WILL AND HIS INTENTION ARE IDENTICAL

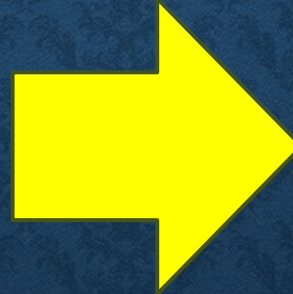
Job 23:13-14 (ESV) But he is unchangeable, and who can turn him back? What he desires, that he does. 14 For he will complete what he appoints for me, and many such things are in his mind.

Psalms 115:3 (ESV) Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.

Ephesians 1:11 (ESV) In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will,

THEOLOGICAL FACT

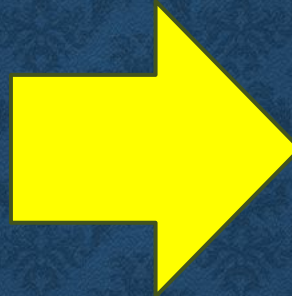
GODS'
WILL-INTENTION



GODS' ACTION

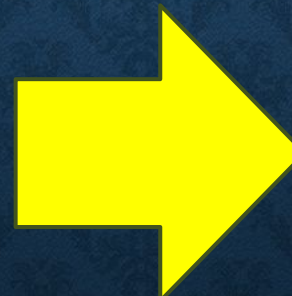
AMYRALDIANISM

**GODS'
WILL-INTENTION**
All men to be
saved by faith



GODS' ACTION
Some men are
saved by faith

**GODS'
WILL-INTENTION**
Some men to be
saved by faith



GODS' ACTION
Gives faith to
some men

- Is it not all one as if a man should promise a blind man a thousand pounds upon condition that he will see?

John 6:39-40 (ESV) And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. 40 For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.

COSMOS-HUMANITY IN REBELLION AGAINST GOD

John 3:16-17 (ESV) “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the **world**, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

THE WORD “PAS” –ALL MEN

- “all men” in the Bible refers to all of a specific group but rarely the entire human race.

- Acts 19:19 And a number of those who had practiced magic arts brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all.
- John 11:47-48 (ESV) So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, “What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. 48 If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.”

Isaiah 53:6 (ESV) All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

Hebrews 2:9 (ESV) But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

Hebrews 2:10-11 (ESV) For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing **many sons to glory,** should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. 11 For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them **brothers,**

God's counsel, His will and His intention are identical

QUESTION 2

Whilst the concept of "Free Will" is typically associated with Arminianism, wouldn't there be a biblical basis to believe that God's predestination and Man's free will coexist (John 3:16, Acts 16:31-32, Romans 10:9), as opposed to holding a mutually exclusive view and conclude that only Calvinism is correct, any thoughts on a middle ground view such as Molinism?



GOD'S KNOWLEDGE

Natural knowledge

God's knowledge of all things God could possibly do

Middle knowledge Molinism

God's knowledge of rational creatures will freely do if placed under certain (hypothetical) circumstances *prior* to God's special decree

Free knowledge

God's knowledge of future things (what God eventually and freely brings into being)

PROBLEMS WITH MIDDLE KNOWLEDGE

Conditional future things depending on will of man are not true apart from the will or decree of God.

God's exhaustive providence precludes the possibility that man's will is indeterminate.

There is no uncertain knowledge in God

Incompatible with God's sovereign will as certain acts come about from man's autonomous will

God's freedom to base his decisions solely on his sovereign purpose and good pleasure (Rom. 9) would be undermined, God's grace be subservient to man's will



COMPATIBILISM

Predestination
Causal Determinism

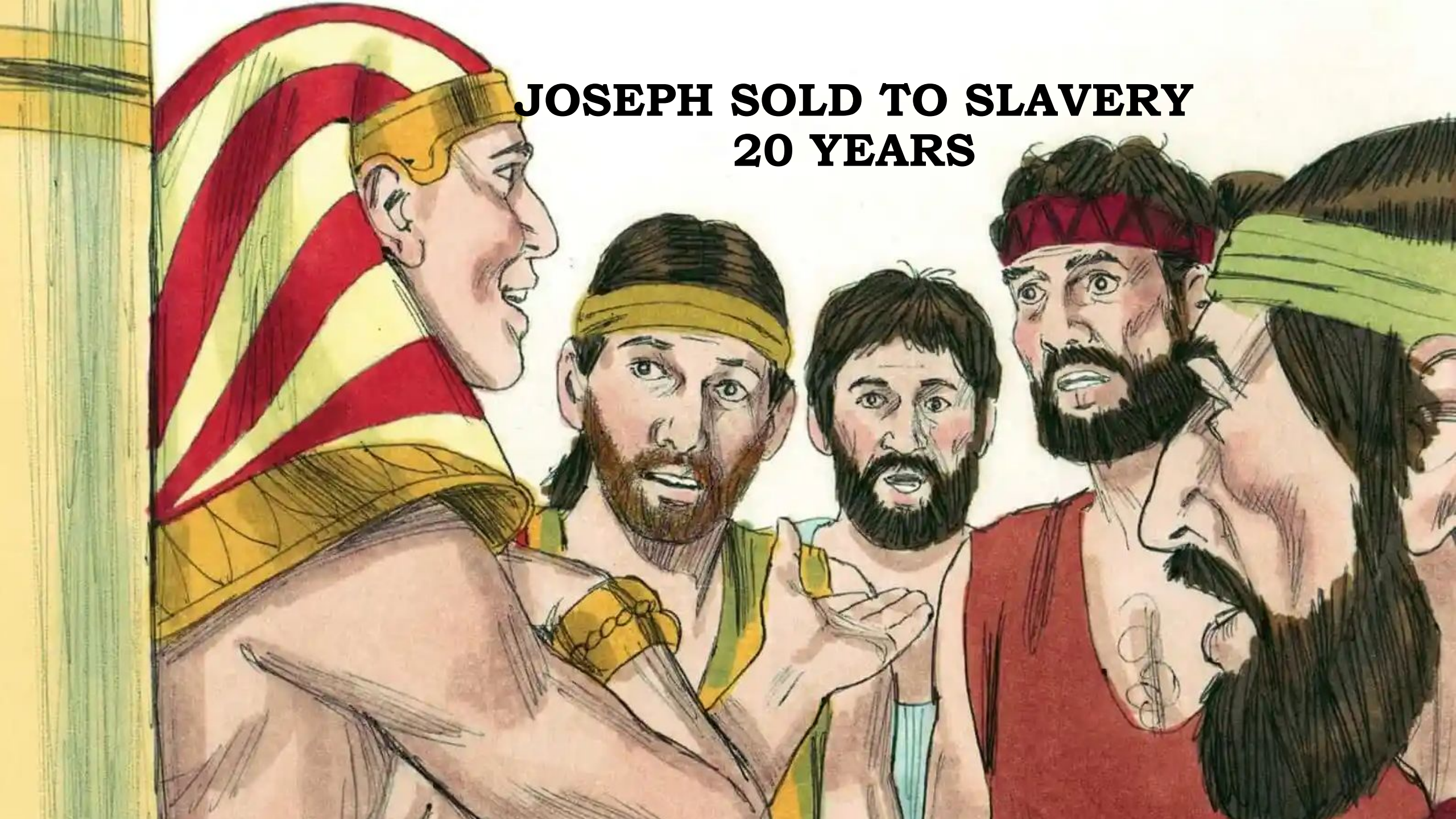
Moral
responsibility

CAUSAL DETERMINISM

Acts 2:23 (ESV) this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

Acts 4:27-28 (ESV) for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, 28 to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.

**JOSEPH SOLD TO SLAVERY
20 YEARS**



THEIR MOTIVES AND GOD'S PURPOSES WORK IN PARALLEL



Genesis 50:20 As for you,
you meant evil against me,
but God meant it for good, to
bring it about that many
people should be kept alive,
as they are today.

CAN A PERSON BE TRULY FREE ?

Predestination
Causal Determinism



Morally
significant
freedom



DOES MORALLY SIGNIFICANT FREEDOM EXIST?

No predisposing factors

affections, desires,
intentions, beliefs,
motives, reasons, events ,
memories

MORALLY SIGNIFICANT FREEDOM?

Predisposing factors
Background, age, beliefs



Judgement



We do not make choices contrary
to our desires or natures

**True freedom in
morally
insignificant
choices**



CONSCIENCE

Romans 2:14-16 (ESV) For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. 15 They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them 16 on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

IN EVERY DAY EXPERIENCE

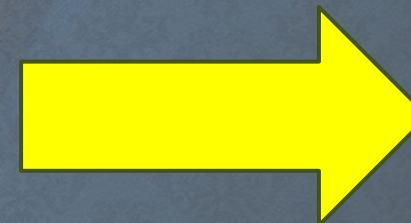
Predisposing factors
Background, age, beliefs



Character



MOTIVE



ACTION



Judgement

THERE IS NO FREEDOM FROM

Predestination
Causal Determinism

Corrupt nature,

God incited David to number Israel and Judah

- [2 Samuel 24:1](#), "Now again the anger of the LORD burned against Israel, and it incited David against them to say, "Go, number Israel and Judah."
- [2 Samuel 24:10](#), "Now David's heart troubled him after he had numbered the people. So David said to the LORD, "I have sinned greatly in what I have done. But now, O LORD, please take away the iniquity of Your servant, for I have acted very foolishly."
David VOLUNTARILy sinned
- [1 Chronicles 21:1](#), "Then Satan stood up against Israel and moved David to number Israel."
Satan influenced David

DAVID

Sin

GOD

SATAN



- David is responsible for what he did because he freely chose to do it even though the anger of the Lord incited David to sin.

QUESTION 3

3a. If it is incorrect to view that God planned for salvation after Adam sinned (i.e. God's plan for salvation) is planned before all things begin), wouldn't that mean that the fall of man is also part of God's plan, as there is no need for the death of Christ / salvation if man was not fallen in the first place?

QUESTION 4

Based on the reading of the Protoevangelium (Genesis 3:15) which God has said to the serpent after the fall of man, why is it incorrect to say that salvation was planned after the fall of man?

The protoevangelium shows us that God always had the plan of salvation in mind, and informed us of His plan as soon as sin entered the world.

Genesis 3:15 (ESV) I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

QUESTION 5

- The seven mountain mandate, once crafted by a group of New Apostolic Reformation believers, have now been watered down to influencing the 7 groups for evangelism purposes, how should we respond if the 7M mandate is used for the latter purposes?

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**ARTS &
ENTERTAINMENT**



BUSINESS



CHURCH



EDUCATION



FAMILY



MEDIA



GOVERNMENT



Strategy for Winning the 7 Mountains of Culture

Os Hillman

DOMINION THEOLOGY

Dominion theology urges Christians to take their “rightful” place in all areas of society all over the world. Once this is accomplished, and the world is converted to Christianity, Jesus will return. This is also known as post-millennialism.

Isaiah 2:1-3 (ESV) The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. 2 It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, 3 and many peoples shall come, and say: “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.”

Deuteronomy 7:1-2 (ESV) When the LORD your God brings you into the land that you are entering to take possession of it, and clears away many nations before you, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations more numerous and mightier than you, 2 and when the LORD your God gives them over to you, and you defeat them, then you must devote them to complete destruction

GREAT COMMISSION

Matthew 28:18-20 (ESV) All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Acts 1:8 (ESV) But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

- We have no direct command in Scripture to seek positions of influence in society, only that we make disciples and be Jesus' witnesses in all the world ([Matthew 28:19](#); [Acts 1:8](#)).

The Gospel

Jesus substitutionary death for us



Effects



Reconciliation



Renewal



Justice



The gospel is feeding the poor

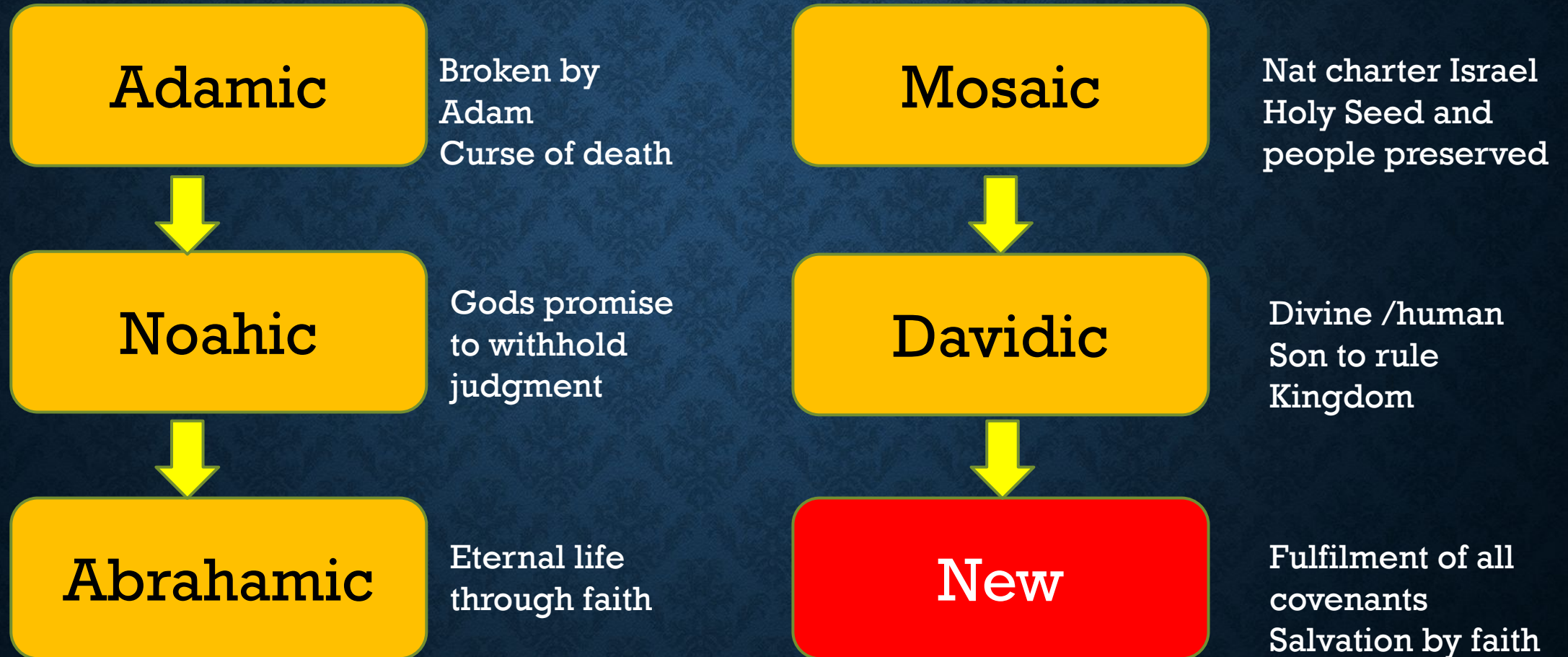


The gospel is achieving justice all over

QUESTION 6

In a session, there was a mention of the Adamic covenant, Noahic covenant, Abrahamic covenant, Mosaic covenant, Davidic covenant, are these not all just the "Old covenant" where God has made a covenant with the Israelites? Is there any significance to break up the old covenant into multiple covenants?

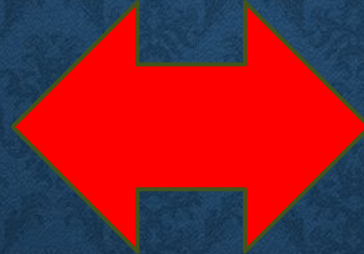
Biblical Covenants



QUESTION 7

. Whilst the argument of Old Earth vs Young Earth alone may not be critical for the purposes of the gospel doctrine, there may be criticism that if we do not defend the Old earth / young earth belief, we may risk outsiders concluding that given the inaccuracy of the Bible on the age of the earth, the gospel message in the Bible may also be erroneous, how should we respond?

**Time frame of
biblical account
on Creation**



**Authenticity of
Biblical data**

Purpose of Genesis

Account—origin of man and nature
of Creation and purpose of Creator

Told in particular literary form

QUESTION 8

I have doubts about Dr Peter's reasoning that we were predestined by God for our salvation as per study 1 on Ephesians

RATIONALE

Paul's letter was addressed to Christians who had already accepted Christ. (God foreknew, "He chose us" could mean God setting Christian apart.)

If God predestined who should be Christian than "We should be asking have God chose you ?" instead of "Have you accepted Christ?" moreover no one will know who has being selected by God.

No where is Scripture does it ask have we been chosen by God
The issue is addressed to Christians already chosen

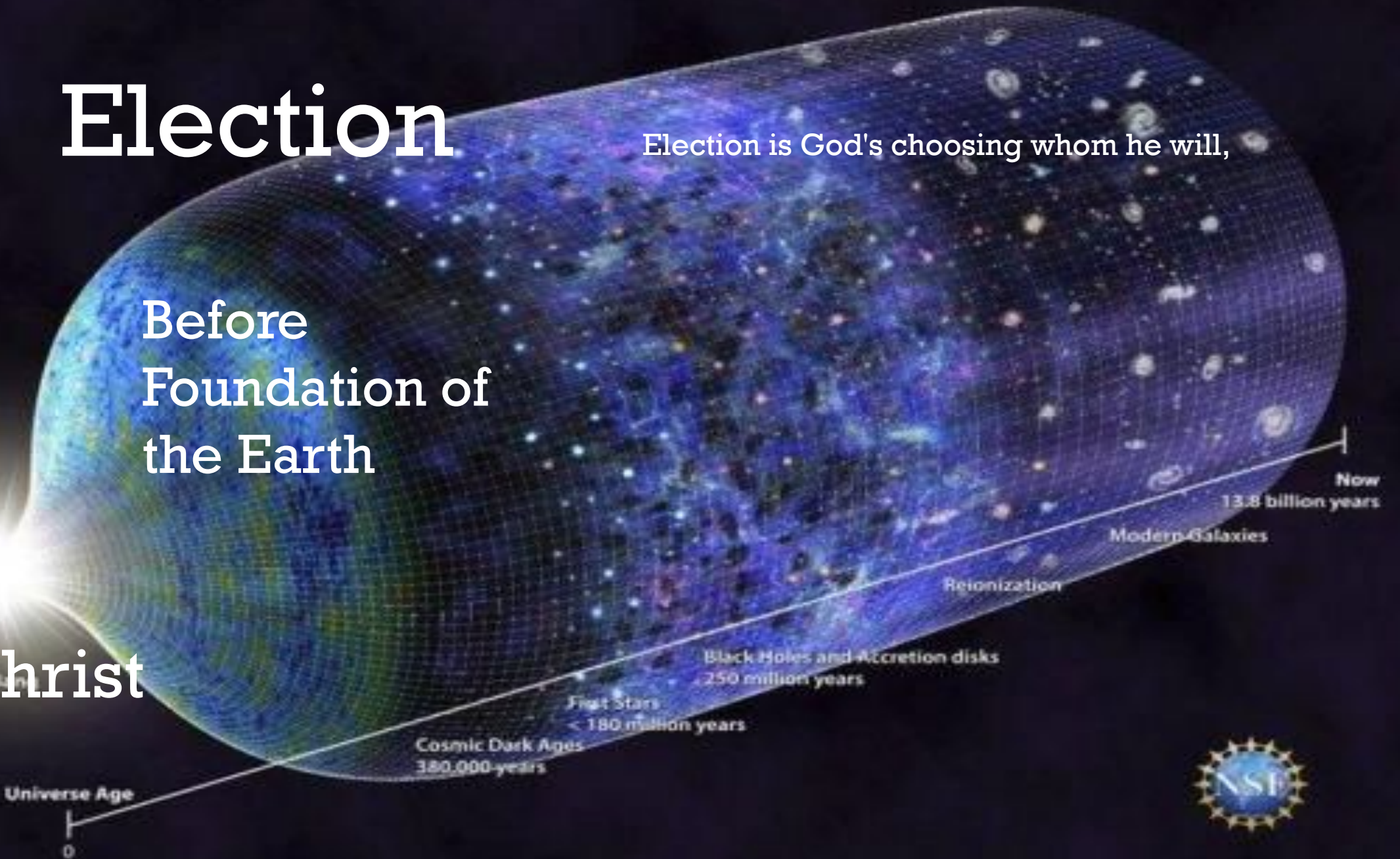
Ephesians 1:4-6 (ESV) even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved

Election

Election is God's choosing whom he will,

Before
Foundation of
the Earth

In Christ



“Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”



PREDESTINATION-SELECT FOR A PURPOSE

God's determination that they will become his children.



RATIONALE

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FIRST EVANGELISTIC SERMON

Acts 2:37-39 (ESV) Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” 38 And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.”

John 6:37-40 (ESV) All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.

38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.

39 And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day.

40 For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

Predestination is indicated by the response to Christ. It is never used as to exclude anyone. The one who chooses Christ is predestined

QUESTION

Versus 5 “predestined” should not be read by itself instead “predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ” which is obvious because once we accepted Christ we are adopted as sons by Jesus Christ.

ONE LONG SENTENCE

Ephesians 1:3-6 (ESV) 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, 4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

The reason He chose us before out of all humanity is before he had pre-determined our destiny



QUESTION

This seems to suggest that before the creation of the world, some, or in this case, " The inhabitants of the earth whose names " have not been written in the book of life . It's like being predestined to become a nonbeliever.

THERE IS NO MENTION THAT THIS REFERS TO THE TIME BEFORE CREATION

Revelation 17:8 (ESV) The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to rise from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. And the dwellers on earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will marvel to see the beast, because it was and is not and is to come.

Describes worshippers of the beast

PEOPLE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS....

Revelation 22:18-19 (ESV) I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY

1) How do we reconcile this with John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life

HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY

John 3:18-19 (ESV) Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. 1

2) If some were already predestined not to be selected to be in the book of life, how do I know that my name is in it even though I confess my sin and believe in Jesus Christ

DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY

John 6:36-37 (ESV) But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. 37 All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.

John 6:43-44 (ESV) Jesus answered them, “Do not grumble among yourselves. 44 No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day.

John 6:40 For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

John 5:23-24 (ESV) Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. 24 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes **him** who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

Acts 16:31-32 (ESV) And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”

Romans 10:9 (ESV) because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

QUESTION

3) If there are those whose names have not been written, would it also be implied that there are some whose names were already written before the foundation of the earth?

YES

- Ephesians 1:4 (ESV) even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love

I don't like police in Malaysia. I think they are lazy, corrupt and wants duit kopi. Am I prejudiced? Yes, I am. Most of them aren't believers of Christ, so they are not headed for everlasting life anyways and I am not sad about it. I don't love them, I rationalize that they are not 'selected' / pre-destined to be believers. Am I wrong to think like that

- Are we as Christians intrinsically better than Non Christians? So much so that we are in a position to look down on Non Believers?
- What is the

Ephesians 2:1-6 (ESV) And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus

2 Corinthians 5:14-21 (ESV) For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; 15 and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

APPENDIX

A background image showing two hands clasped together in a firm grip, symbolizing support or agreement. The hands are positioned centrally, with fingers interlaced. The overall tone is a muted, dark blue-grey.

COMPATIBILISM

Predestination

Moral Responsibility