

Man: What and Who Does God Choose?

7) I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations as an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you. (Gen 17:7, ESV)

Ask questions about the text: what is this covenant and a descendant of Abraham? How would solve this question?

- 16) That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, 17) as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. (Rom 4:16-17, ESV)

Ask questions about the text: how do you become a descendant of Abraham?

- 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.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.” (Ex 19:5-6, ESV)

- 28) There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29) And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. (Gal 3:28-29, ESV)

Ask questions about the text: does this mean I must follow the Law of Moses? What does it mean to be chosen in the New Testament?

- 4) As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 5) you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6) For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

- 7) So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

- 8) and

“A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

- 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. 10) Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (1 Pet 2:9-10, ESV)

Test your understanding (i.e. assumptions, context, etc.). Can you find other biblical passages that contradict you?