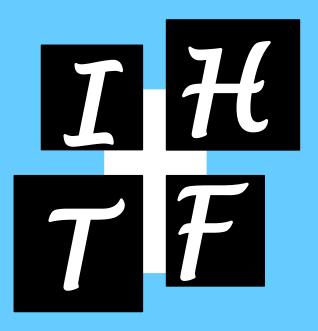
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ELECTION OF GRACE (Christian Character Series)

Confirm Your Calling and Election

Ephesians 2:8-10

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

2 Peter 1:10

10 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble.

As a believer, you have been elected by God's grace on account of your faith. You have been chosen by God's unmerited favor and not by your own effort. However, you have been elected to be holy and without blame before Him in love. The ultimate end of this election is the praise of the glory of His grace. We are therefore encouraged to constantly make this election and calling sure.

Keeping From Being Ineffective

2 Peter 1:5-10

5 For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; 6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; 7 and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. 8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins. 10 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble.

You have been created in Christ Jesus for good works by which you constantly confirm your calling and election. You have to exercise faith, moral excellence, knowledge or insight, self-control, perseverance (patience, endurance), godliness, brotherly affection and love (the ability to unselfishly seek the best for others and to do things for their benefit) to make you effective and productive to fulfill your calling. May the Holy Spirit strengthen these qualities in you as you seek to make your election sure.

Take Away

As a believer, you have been elected by God's grace on account of your faith. You have been chosen by God's unmerited favor and not by your own effort. You have been elected to be holy and without blame before Him in love and have been created in Christ Jesus for good works by which you constantly confirm your calling and election. May the Holy Spirit strengthen qualities in you as you seek to make your election sure, for the glory of the Lord. Amen!