

6. God's Counsel

BC 16; Canons 1:6-7, 9-10

Election

Prove that God always does His pleasure.

[Is. 46:10] God will do all His pleasure.

[Eph. 1:11] God works all things after the counsel of His own will.

What does it mean that God decreed something?

God willed and determined that it would happen.

Elect = Christ & thosen chosen in Him [Is. 42:1; Eph. 1:4; Canons 1:7].

Christ died for those God had given Him [John 10:15; Canons 2:8].

What is meant by unconditional election?

God's chose us not because of anything we would do.

God's good pleasure is the sole cause of election [Canons 1:9-10].

State the relationship between election and faith correctly and incorrectly.

[Incorrect] God chose us because He knew we would believe.

[Correct] We believe because God chose us [Acts 13:48].

Prove that as we mature we come to know that we are an elect.

[Luke 10:20] We are to rejoice knowing our names are written in heaven.

[Canons 1:12] The elect do attain this assurance [Cf. Canons 5:9, e5].

Does knowledge of preservation make us proud & disobedient?

No. A person assured of this is thankful & wants to glorify God [Canons 5:12].

Reprobation

What is meant by double predestination?

Election & reprobation

Canons speak of one decree [Canons 1:6].

Term "predestination" in Scripture refers to election [Rom. 8:29; Eph. 1:11].

Prove the doctrine of reprobation [Give at least 2 proofs].

[John 10:26] Some do not believe because they are not of Christ's sheep.

[Rom. 9:18] God wills to have mercy on some and to harden others.

[I Pet. 2:6-8] God determined that certain people would stumble at God's word.

God uses the reprobate for His glory & our good [Rom. 9:22-23].

God chose those He foreknew [Rom. 8:29].

God knew only certain people and chose them [Amos 3:2; Mt. 7:23].