

## THE TWO-FOLD ASPECTIVE OF DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY

The two-fold foundational buttress of the N. T. doctrine of absolute sovereign election and predestination, is, so high you can't fly over it, so wide you can't swing around it, and so deep you can't dig under it. We can down-play it and de-emphasize it, but divine wisdom will teach us not to do so. Here is a sequence of Scriptures, the which if they be studied in-depth, will open our eyes to this inescapable foundational reality.

We will start this Scriptural sequence with Jn. 3:16.

From Jn.3:16 go to Jn.12:39, remembering that the same writer penned both these verses, and he has not forgot the former as he writes the latter. From here go to Acts 13:41, and there acknowledge that unit six of this verse is immutable prophecy emanating from under the foundational seal of divine foreknowledge and fore-ordination. In this verse "shall" is absolute. From here go to Acts 13:48, last unit still comparing to Jn.3:16. Go now to Acts 15:7 and realize that the last unit of this verse has a direct theological relation to the last unit of Acts 13:48. Go now to Acts 15:4 and realize that the last unit of this verse also has a direct theological relation to Acts 13:48, last unit, noticing specifically that he did not say "to (invite) out of them a people". Go now to Acts 15:19, last unit, and realize here that when James uses the word "are" where he could reasonably have used the word *HAVE*, (which from among the gentiles *have* turned) he thereby leaves the definite implicit of the sovereign hand of God, turning these gentiles to him for his own Holy names sake, and that as a first cause (look again at Acts 15:14).

From the study of these Scriptures we can realize that the N. T. writers and speakers were fully cognizant, (as purposefully revealed in their words) of sovereign election and predestination. Even the Apostle John who wrote John 3:16 gives us to know in Jn.6:37, first unit, Jn.12:39, first unit, and Jn.17:2, last unit, as well as other passages that he fully understood the truth of sovereign election. While Jn.3:16 truly is the quoted words of Jesus, Jn.6:37 is also the quoted words of Jesus, (the last unit of this verse is truly good but it does not in any wise cancel out the first unit). Jn.17:2, is also the quoted words of our Lord Jesus. The first unit of Jn.6:37 is a definite and direct reference to the elect as is several of these other verses.