

God the Father and the Real Gospel of Sovereign Grace for You

J. Van Vliet

CRTS Conference 2018

<p>Canons of Dort 1.7</p> <p>Election is the unchangeable purpose of God (1:5) whereby, before the foundation of the world (1:4), out of the whole human race, which had fallen by its own fault out of its original integrity into sin and perdition, He has, according to the sovereign good pleasure of His will (1:5), out of mere grace (1:6), chosen in Christ (1:4) to salvation a definite number of specific persons, neither better nor more worthy than others, but involved together with them in a common misery. He has also from eternity appointed Christ to be the Mediator and Head of all the elect (1:22-23) and the foundation of salvation and thus He decreed to give to Christ those who were to be saved, and effectually to call and draw them into His communion through His Word and Spirit (1:13). He decreed to give them true faith in Him, <u>to justify them</u>, to sanctify them (1:4), and, after having powerfully kept them in the fellowship of His Son, finally <u>to glorify them</u>, for the demonstration of His mercy and the praise of the riches of His glorious grace (1:6). As it is written: God chose us in Christ, <i>before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. In love He predestined us to be adopted as His sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with His pleasure and will - to the praise of His glorious grace, which He has freely given us in the One He loves</i> (Eph 1:4-6). And elsewhere, <i>those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified</i> (Rom 8:30).</p>	<p>Ephesians 1</p> <p>vv. 4-6 ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.</p> <p>v. 13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit</p> <p>vv. 22-23 ²²And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.</p> <p>Romans 8:30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also <u>justified</u>, and those whom he <u>justified</u> he also <u>glorified</u>.</p>
---	---

Arminian Definitions of Election

<p>that God by an eternal and immutable decree has in Jesus Christ his Son determined before the foundation of the world to save out of the fallen sinful human race <u>those</u> in Christ, for Christ's sake, and through Christ <u>who</u> by the grace of the Holy Spirit <u>shall believe in this his Son Jesus Christ and persevere in this faith and obedience of faith to the end...</u> according to the word of the holy gospel in John 3:36, "He that believeth on the Son hath eternal life, and whosoever is disobedient to the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him" (<i>Remonstrance</i> 1610)</p>	<p>God has ordained that Christ should be a propitiation for the sins of the whole world, and by virtue of that decree He has determined to justify and to save <u>those who believe in Him</u>, and to provide for men means necessary and sufficient for faith in such a way as He knows to be in harmony with His wisdom and justice. (<i>Sententiae</i> 1618)</p>
--	---