WEAVER STUDY GUIDES

How Do I Know I'm One of God's Elect?

Study Guide

New Testament Studies

John Weaver

Weaver Bible College

A lesson-by-lesson companion for reading, discussion, and written responses.

Downloadable classroom edition | 8.5 x 11 inches

Name / group

Date

Contents

Lesson 1: How Do I Know I'm One of God's Elect? - 1 3

Major Themes 3
Key Arguments 4
Scripture References 5
Discussion Questions 7
Applications 9
Personal Application and Notes 10

Lesson 2: How Do I Know I'm One of God's Elect? - 2 11

Major Themes 11
Key Arguments 12
Scripture References 13
Discussion Questions 16
Applications 19
Personal Application and Notes 20

Online Lecture Resources 21

Using this guide

Read the corresponding chapter, then work through the themes, arguments, and Scripture references.

Write your responses before discussing the questions with others. Use the application pages to identify a practical next step.

The study material is retained from the existing lecture study guides. Added writing prompts provide space for your own response.

Print at Actual Size / 100% on US Letter paper. Single-sided and double-sided printing are both suitable. Lessons begin on the next available page; no blank pages are inserted.

Reading assignments refer to the October 9, 2026 opening-heading corrected edition of the companion book. Online lecture links and QR codes are collected at the end.

LESSON 1

How Do I Know I'm One of God's Elect? - 1

May 03, 2020

Read Chapter 1 in the companion book, pages 5-22 (October 9, 2026 opening-heading corrected edition).

Major Themes

The Doctrine of Election is Biblical and Pervasive

Election is not an isolated doctrine but is woven throughout both Testaments, encompassing national, vocational, messianic, and personal election.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'the doctrine of election is consistently taught in both Testaments' and lists multiple categories of election.

Election is Unto Salvation, Not Salvation Itself

Election is God's sovereign choice of individuals to be saved, but salvation is applied through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Election is not salvation. Election is unto salvation.' and cites 2 Thessalonians 2:13.

The Elect are Those Given by the Father to the Son

The identity of the elect is rooted in the eternal covenant where the Father gave a people to the Son, who then redeems them.

Lecture support: Weaver repeatedly references John 17:2, 6, 9, 11, 12, 24 and John 6:37; 10:29.

Coming to Christ is Evidence of Election

One way to know you are elect is that you have come to Christ in repentance and faith, because all that the Father gives to the Son will come to Him.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'one of the ways that you know that you're God's elect... is that you have come to Him in repentance and faith.'

Election Magnifies God's Grace, Not Human Merit

Because all are sinful and deserve destruction, the fact that God saves any is pure grace, leaving no room for boasting.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes A.W. Pink: 'Thus you have no ground for boasting... All the glory of your salvation belongs alone unto the Lord.'

Key Arguments

Denying Election Undermines the Whole Bible

To deny election is to deny national Israel, the Levitical priesthood, Christ as Messiah, and personal salvation, because all are based on God's sovereign choice.

Lecture support: Weaver argues, 'if you deny the doctrine of election, you deny national Israel, you deny the Levitical priesthood, you deny Jesus Christ and His salvation.'

The Phrase 'As Many As' Indicates Limitation

In John 17:2 and throughout Acts, 'as many as' consistently limits the scope of a statement, showing that Christ gives eternal life only to those given to Him by the Father.

Lecture support: Weaver traces 'as many as' in Acts 2:39; 3:24; 4:6; 5:36-37; 10:45; 11:12; 13:48 to demonstrate limitation.

The Eternal Covenant Explains the Father-Son Relationship in Salvation

Before creation, the Father, Son, and Spirit entered an eternal covenant in which the Father gave a people to the Son, the Son agreed to redeem them, and the Spirit agreed to apply that redemption.

Lecture support: Weaver explains the everlasting covenant from Hebrews 13:20 and connects it to John 17.

Concern Over Election Can Be a Sign of Election

A person who is distressed about whether they are elect and who desires to love and obey Christ is showing evidence of a regenerate heart, because the unregenerate do not care about such things.

Lecture support: Weaver recounts the story of the weeping woman and his questions to her, concluding that her concern indicated she was a child of God.

Fleeing to Christ is the Only Proper Response for the Lost

Since no one deserves salvation and all are already condemned, the lost have nothing to lose by casting themselves on Christ's mercy, and He promises not to cast them out.

Lecture support: Weaver uses the lepers' reasoning in 2 Kings 7:4 and applies it to coming to Christ, citing John 6:37.

Scripture References

John 17:1-3

Weaver reads the opening of Jesus' high priestly prayer, focusing on the Father giving authority to the Son to give eternal life to those given to Him.

2 Corinthians 13:5

Weaver cites this verse to urge self-examination to know whether Christ is in you.

2 Peter 1:10

Weaver quotes this verse to emphasize making one's calling and election sure.

1 Thessalonians 1:4

Weaver notes that Paul knew the Thessalonians were elect, raising the question of how such knowledge is possible.

Deuteronomy 7:6

Weaver quotes this verse to show God's national election of Israel.

Romans 9:6-8

Weaver explains that not all physical descendants of Abraham are true Israel; only the children of promise are counted as seed.

Galatians 3:16, 29

Weaver shows that the promises were made to Abraham's seed, which is Christ, and believers are Abraham's seed by being in Christ.

Romans 9:3-5

Weaver argues that denying national election means denying the covenants, promises, and Christ Himself who came through Israel.

Numbers 3:6

Weaver cites this to show God's vocational election of the tribe of Levi for priestly service.

Deuteronomy 21:5

Weaver quotes this verse to confirm God's choice of the Levites to minister.

Mark 3:13-14

Weaver uses this passage to illustrate that Jesus sovereignly called whom He would to be apostles, and God still calls preachers today.

Isaiah 42:1

Weaver points out that Jesus Christ is called God's elect, the messianic election.

John 15:16

Weaver quotes Jesus' words, 'You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you,' to emphasize divine initiative in election.

Ephesians 1:3-6

Weaver reads this passage to show that God chose believers in Christ before the foundation of the world.

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14

Weaver cites this to demonstrate election unto salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.

Romans 9:11-13

Weaver uses the example of Jacob and Esau to show that election is not based on works but on God's calling.

Romans 11:5

Weaver quotes this verse to affirm a remnant according to the election of grace.

John 1:10-13

Weaver uses this passage to show that 'as many as received Him' is a limited group, not everyone.

Acts 2:38-39

Weaver points out that the promise is for 'as many as the Lord our God shall call,' indicating limitation.

Acts 13:47-48

Weaver highlights that 'as many as were ordained to eternal life believed,' showing a limited number.

Discussion Questions

1. How does the story of the distraught woman illustrate that concern over election can be evidence of being elect?

Consider: Weaver shares an anecdote about a woman weeping over her election and his questions that led her to rejoice.

2. In what ways does denying the doctrine of election undermine other biblical doctrines, according to Weaver?

Consider: Weaver argues that denying election means denying national Israel, the Levitical priesthood, and Christ Himself.

3. How does the phrase 'as many as' in John 17:2 and other passages help us understand the scope of Christ's saving work?

Consider: Weaver traces the limiting use of 'as many as' through Acts to show that salvation is for a specific group.

4. What is the 'everlasting covenant' and how does it relate to the Father giving people to the Son?

Consider: Weaver explains the eternal covenant between the persons of the Trinity as the basis for election.

5. How does the illustration of adopting three children from an orphanage help explain the gracious nature of election?

Consider: Weaver uses the adoption analogy to show that God is not obligated to save anyone, making salvation pure grace.

6. What practical counsel does Weaver give to those who are lost or have lost loved ones, based on 2 Kings 7 and John 6:37?

Consider: Weaver urges the lost to flee to Christ, reasoning that they have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

Applications

Examine Yourself Biblically

Believers should examine themselves according to Scripture to gain assurance of their election, not through introspection but by comparing their lives to God's Word.

Lecture support: Weaver cites 2 Corinthians 13:5 and 2 Peter 1:10, urging diligence in making calling and election sure.

Flee to Christ for Salvation

The lost should not despair over election but should come to Christ in repentance and faith, trusting His promise not to cast them out.

Lecture support: Weaver uses the lepers' reasoning and John 6:37 to encourage immediate, desperate faith in Christ.

Rejoice in God's Sovereign Grace

Believers should rejoice that God chose them in Christ before the foundation of the world, giving all glory to Him for their salvation.

Lecture support: Weaver concludes the sermon with a prayer of thanks for election and urges rejoicing in God's choice.

Do Not Mourn Over the Doctrine of Election

Instead of being paralyzed by the mystery of election, believers should actively trust God's revealed will and proclaim the gospel.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'don't sit back and mourn over the doctrine of election' and points to the lepers' proactive decision.

Study notes

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

LESSON 2

How Do I Know I'm One of God's Elect? - 2

May 10, 2020

Read Chapter 2 in the companion book, pages 23-39 (October 9, 2026 opening-heading corrected edition).

Major Themes

Biblical Doctrine of Election

Election is a clear biblical teaching, with 73 New Testament verses referencing it. It is unto salvation, not salvation itself, and is foundational to understanding God's sovereign grace.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'there's 73 verses in the New Testament that speak of the doctrine of election' and explains from 2 Timothy 2:9-10 that election is 'unto salvation' but not salvation itself.

Revelation and Reception of God's Word

A key evidence of election is receiving the revelation of God in Christ and keeping His Word. Only those to whom the Son reveals the Father can truly know Him.

Lecture support: From John 17:6-8, Weaver notes, 'I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me... and they have kept thy word.' He also cites Matthew 11:27 on divine revelation.

Preservation and Perseverance of the Elect

God preserves His elect, and this preservation is evidenced by their perseverance in faith. They continue in repentance and belief, not ultimately falling away.

Lecture support: Weaver references John 17:11-14, Jude 1:1, and John 10:27-30, stating, 'Those whom God preserves He enables and empowers to persevere.'

Sanctification as Evidence of Election

The elect are sanctified by the Spirit and the Word, leading to holy living. Sanctification follows justification, and those who live ungodly lives show they are not truly saved.

Lecture support: Citing John 17:17-19, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, and Galatians 5:19-21, Weaver says, 'All of those whom God justifies by faith, He sanctifies by His Spirit and His Word.'

Indwelling of the Holy Spirit and Divine Love

The elect are indwelt by Christ through the Spirit and loved by the Father with the same love He has for the Son. The Spirit witnesses to their adoption, enabling them to call God 'Abba, Father.'

Lecture support: From John 17:24-26 and Romans 8:14-17, Weaver explains, 'the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them' and 'the Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God.'

Assurance of Election

Believers can have confidence in their election by examining these four evidences. The doctrine should lead to worship and gratitude, not fear.

Lecture support: Weaver concludes, 'we can have absolute confidence and absolute assurance that, yes, we are God's elect' based on the evidences from John 17.

Key Arguments

Election is unto salvation, not salvation itself

Weaver argues that election is the foundation for salvation but not identical to it, citing 2 Timothy 2:9-10 where Paul endures for the elect that they may obtain salvation.

Lecture support: He says, 'election may be the foundation, the basis of salvation, but it is not salvation in and of itself' and reads 2 Timothy 2:9-10.

Reception of revelation proves election

Those who receive and keep Christ's words demonstrate they are given by the Father. Revelation is necessary because no one can know the Father without the Son's revelation.

Lecture support: Weaver cites John 17:6-8 and Matthew 11:27, stating, 'if we have received the revelation of God, then we know that we are one of God's elect.'

Perseverance is the visible side of preservation

God's preservation of the elect is made evident by their perseverance in faith. Those who do not persevere have no evidence of preservation.

Lecture support: He says, 'if you're not persevering in the faith, you have no evidence that God has preserved you' and references John 17:11-14 and Jude 1:1.

Sanctification necessarily follows justification

All whom God justifies He also sanctifies. A professing Christian living in unrepentant sin is deceived, as shown in 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 and Galatians 5:19-21.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'It is impossible for someone to be justified and unsanctified' and reads the warning passages.

The Spirit's witness confirms adoption

The indwelling Holy Spirit enables believers to cry 'Abba, Father' and bears witness with their spirit that they are children of God, providing internal assurance.

Lecture support: From Romans 8:14-17, Weaver explains, 'the Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God.'

Believers are loved as Christ is loved

Jesus prays that the love the Father has for Him may be in believers, indicating they share in the same divine love. As joint heirs with Christ, they inherit all things with Him.

Lecture support: Weaver highlights John 17:26 and Romans 8:17, saying, 'God loves you just as much and exactly as He loves His Son.'

Scripture References

John 17:1-3

Introduction of the passage under study; Jesus prays for glory and defines eternal life as knowing God and Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1:4

Anecdote about a man upset by the mention of election; the verse says 'Knowing, brethren, beloved, your election of God.'

John 17:2

Shows the limiting phrase 'as many as' indicating election; Jesus gives eternal life to those given by the Father.

Amos 3:2

Illustrates intimate knowledge; God says 'You only have I known of all the families of the earth,' meaning revealed Himself to Israel.

2 Timothy 2:9-10

Paul endures for the elect that they may obtain salvation, showing election is unto salvation.

2 Timothy 1:9-10

Grace given in Christ before the world began, now manifest through the gospel; election precedes salvation in time.

John 17:6

First evidence: Jesus manifested the Father's name to those given Him, and they kept His word.

Matthew 11:27

No one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son reveals Him; revelation is necessary.

John 1:18

The only begotten Son has declared the Father; no one has seen God, but Christ reveals Him.

Matthew 16:17

Peter's confession of Christ was revealed by the Father, not flesh and blood.

John 1:17

The law came by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ; the fullness of revelation is in Christ.

John 8:30-32

True disciples continue in Christ's word; reception of revelation involves ongoing obedience.

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14

God chose believers to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief in the truth, called by the gospel.

John 17:6-8

Jesus gave the words from the Father, and the disciples received them and believed; evidence of election.

John 17:11-14

Jesus prays for preservation of those given Him; they are kept in the Father's name and not of the world.

Jude 1:1

Believers are sanctified by God the Father and preserved in Jesus Christ.

John 10:27-30

Jesus' sheep hear His voice, receive eternal life, and are secure in the Father's hand; preservation promised.

2 Timothy 4:18

Paul is confident the Lord will preserve him unto His heavenly kingdom.

Job 17:9

The righteous hold on to their way and grow stronger; perseverance is characteristic of the elect.

John 17:17-19

Jesus prays for sanctification through truth; He sanctifies Himself that they may be sanctified and sent.

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think some people react so strongly against the doctrine of election, even refusing to read certain verses?

Consider: Weaver shares anecdotes of people avoiding 1 Thessalonians 1:4 and refusing to discuss election.

2. How does understanding election as 'unto salvation' rather than salvation itself affect your view of assurance?

Consider: Weaver explains from 2 Timothy 2:9-10 that election is the foundation, not salvation itself.

3. What does it mean to 'keep' Christ's word, and how does that serve as evidence of election?

Consider: John 17:6 says the disciples kept God's word; Weaver explains the Greek word tereo means to guard and obey.

4. How can we distinguish between a temporary fall and a final falling away when examining perseverance?

Consider: Weaver says the righteous fall seven times but rise again, emphasizing that perseverance doesn't mean sinless perfection.

5. In what ways does sanctification provide evidence of election, and how does it relate to justification?

Consider: Weaver argues from 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 that those justified are also sanctified, and ongoing unrepentant sin indicates deception.

6. What role does the Holy Spirit play in giving us assurance of our adoption as God's children?

Consider: Romans 8:14-17 describes the Spirit bearing witness with our spirit and enabling us to cry 'Abba, Father.'

7. How should the truth that God loves believers as He loves Christ impact our daily lives and worship?

Consider: Weaver expounds John 17:26, stating that the Father's love for the Son is in believers.

8. Why is it important to examine ourselves for these evidences of election rather than relying on a past decision?

Consider: Weaver presents four ongoing evidences from John 17 as the basis for assurance.

Applications

Examine your reception of God's revelation

Assess whether you have truly received and continue to keep Christ's words, as this is a primary evidence of election.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'if we have received the revelation of God, then we know that we are one of God's elect' based on John 17:6-8.

Persevere in faith and repentance

Continue in the faith without denying or walking away, as perseverance demonstrates God's preservation.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'if you're not persevering in the faith, you have no evidence that God has preserved you' from John 17:11-14.

Pursue holiness and sanctification

Live a sanctified life, set apart from sin, as those justified are also sanctified; ongoing ungodly living contradicts a profession of faith.

Lecture support: From 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Weaver warns, 'if you continue to live like verses 9 and 10 say, and you claim to be a Christian, you're deceiving yourself.'

Rely on the Spirit's witness for assurance

Trust the internal witness of the Holy Spirit who enables you to call God 'Abba, Father' and confirms your adoption.

Lecture support: Weaver explains Romans 8:15-16, 'the Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God.'

Rest in the Father's love

Embrace the truth that God loves you with the same love He has for Christ, which should produce deep worship and gratitude.

Lecture support: Weaver highlights John 17:26, 'that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them,' and calls for falling on our faces in worship.

Be honest with Scripture

Do not avoid or reject biblical teachings like election; instead, seek to understand them honestly, even if they challenge you.

Lecture support: Weaver rebukes those who refuse to read or discuss election verses, saying, 'at least you can be honest with Scripture.'

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

Online Lecture Resources

Scan a code or select the lecture link in the PDF. The original lecture identifiers and destinations are preserved.

Lesson 1: How Do I Know I'm One of God's Elect? - 1

Lecture JW00322

Open the formatted lecture online

https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW00322&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

Lesson 2: How Do I Know I'm One of God's Elect? - 2

Lecture JW00321

Open the formatted lecture online

https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW00321&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

---

Source information

Study material: existing Major Themes, Key Arguments, Scripture References, Discussion Questions, and Applications from the corresponding Weaver Bible College lecture records. Original lecture titles and provenance are retained in those source records.

Layout upgraded September 30, 2026. Original manuscripts, study-guide data, and previous PDFs have not been changed.