

#53 \*FORUM POST ON FREE WILL #4

Dear FaithWillDo,

*FaithWillDo said:*

*Mankind has divine restraints on their "will" as these verses repeatedly and clearly state...*

The point is that there are choices.

Of course there are limits. That is not the point of free will.

If humans had no choices at all, then, and only then would there be no free will.

Free will does not mean unlimited ability. Free will is only the ability to choose.

T\_\_\_\_\_

Dear T\_\_\_\_\_,

Mankind's ability to make choices is not in question in scripture. What is in question is whether or not those choices are made freely by the individual or by God's direction.

Consider computers; they make choices frequently but no one would say that a computer has free will. The ability to make choices has no bearing on whether or not mankind has a free will.

To understand if mankind as a free will or not, we must look to the verses which teach about the "cause" of the choices mankind makes. When we do that, we find that mankind's choices come by God's direction. There simply are no verses which say differently.

If a person has faith in Christ as most believer's say that do, but yet won't believe what Christ says, then where is their faith?

Faith is not just believing that Christ exists and that He is mankind's God. Faith in Christ is much more than that. We **MUST** also believe that what Christ teaches us in scripture is true. We **MUST** also trust Him to accomplish all that He says He will accomplish.

Most believers are very lacking in faith when it comes to believing and trusting what Christ says in scripture. For them, they only believe what fits into their preexisting paradigm box. When scripture challenges those beliefs, they find a way to twist and turn scripture to make it conform. They really don't have a "love for the truth".

This is why the false Doctrine of Free Will came into existence. It's not because it is taught in scripture; it's because the carnal mind of man has a preference to prove to God that they are somehow worthy of salvation and worthy of having a relationship with Him.

Christ said this:

**Luke 5:39 No man also having drunk old wine straightway desireth new: for he saith, the old is better.**

The Old Wine represents the blood sacrifices of the Old Covenant of Law. This covenant is founded upon the "works" of man to make themselves acceptable to God. This preference for "works" is built-in to mankind's carnal nature. From that preference, the many religions of the world were created.

When an unbeliever is called out from the world, their carnal nature will continue to control their thoughts and beliefs of their already carnal mind. The Early Rain is not given in enough measure to change it. Because the carnal mind remains in control of the new believer, it will "veil" Christ from their understanding. As a result, they will reject the New Wine of Grace through Faith where Christ's does 100% of the "works" of their salvation. For this reason, the Doctrine of Free Will was born.

Under the Doctrine of Free Will, mankind must do something to earn their salvation - even if it is only taking credit for their confession of faith. However, many believers don't stop there. They will follow the law of tithing, Sabbath Day observance, eating only "clean" foods, or other "works" which they feel compelled to perform so that Christ will find them more worthy of salvation.

Paul says that when a believer has this mindset, they become a debtor to keeping the whole Law and that they are "fallen from grace". And being under the Law, they are not saved.

Turning to "works" (even just one) is the sin that leads to death. Satan's deceptions and lies all focus on having a believer turn to "works" in their approach to Christ. In this way, Satan kills the saints. This death the believer experiences is a spiritual death and is not a physical death as many believe.

These verses apply:

**Mat 24:9 Then shall they (ministers of Satan who control the apostate church) deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.**

**Rev 11:7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.**

I could show you the verses again which teach that mankind does not have a free will but I am sure you have already read them - you just won't accept them because they will not fit into your Christian paradigm of works.

When Christ comes to a fallen away believer a second time and pours out the Latter Rain of the

Spirit, He will increase the faith of the believer and will heal their spiritual blindness. When that day arrives for them, it will destroy their worldly paradigm in which they approach Christ. It is quite a spiritual upheaval in their life, so much so, that Peter described it this way when He was converted:

**Acts 2:19 And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke: 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, BEFORE the great and notable Day of the Lord come: 21 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.**

Other verses add in earthquakes, lightning, thunder and trumpets. It is the most important day in the life of any person. This is when they are converted and saved. Their worldly paradigm is destroyed and they are given a new paradigm by the Holy Spirit.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

No, you are claiming no one has a choice. There is no "doctrine of free will". That is an excuse of your theology that claims determinism overwrites free will.

Also, free will has nothing to do with making oneself look good.

You posted the definition. You need to keep free will as the ability to choose, free of any external manipulation whatsoever.

You keep leaving this definition and talking about made up things.

Are there some people who have a more defined purpose than others? More than likely, yes. But that does not remove free will from existence. God can remove a person and replace that person with another. There are billions of people out there.

Examples: King Saul and King David. Esau and Jacob. 1 Kings 13 where an old prophet lied and caused a man of God to disobey and be killed. Did these people have other choices besides the ones they made? How would we know? They had to live with the choices they made and the rest is history.

Humans are not computers nor robots. That is one good reason why humans have free will. Only God has the ability to even allow free will. Otherwise, yes, all creation is just a predetermined program, including humans. And NO! Sin is not the reason there is free will. Sin is the result of Adam's free will.

T\_\_\_\_\_

Dear T\_\_\_\_\_,

You said:

You posted the definition. You need to keep free will as the ability to choose, free of any external manipulation whatsoever.

The "works" of Christ are spiritual "works" and they happen "within" mankind. They are not external manipulations. When Christ does His spiritual work within a believer, they have no ability to know that He did them. From mankind's perspective, they believe that they made a choice or decision from their supposed free will. However, scripture says this is not the case.

**Ecc 3:11 He has made everything fitting in its season; However, He has put obscurity (the world) in their HEART so that the man may NOT find out His work, that which God does, that which God does from the beginning to the end.**

It is mankind's carnality that keeps him from knowing and understanding God. It is by God's design.

This simple and straight forward verse below destroys any doubt that mankind as a free will ability to accept Christ as their Lord:

**1Cor 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Spirit.**

No man can say that Jesus is the Lord unless they have already been given the Holy Spirit by Christ. If Christ does not give a person the Spirit, they will never make that decision to accept Christ. Mankind is just too carnally minded.

**Rom 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.**

**Rom 3:10 As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one: 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.**

Because of this truth, scripture says this:

**Prov 16:1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.**

**Prov 20:24 Man's goings are of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way?**

**Jer 10:23 I know, Jehovah, that the way of man is not his own; it is not in a man that walketh to direct his steps.**

By your belief in free will, you are denying the saving work of Christ in your life. And by

denying His work within you, you are denying Christ. From Christ's perspective, you are stealing from Him and making yourself out to be equal with God who is the only one who has a free will ability.

This verse applies:

**2Thes 2:3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there comes a falling away first, and that MAN OF SIN be revealed, the son of perdition; 4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.**

The Doctrine of Free Will is the foundational doctrinal belief of the Man of Sin.

You said:

Humans are not computers nor robots. That is one good reason why humans have free will. Only God has the ability to even allow free will. Otherwise, yes, all creation is just a predetermined program, including humans. And NO! Sin is not the reason there is free will. Sin is the result of Adam's free will.

You are using your carnal reasoning to try to understand God. You need to allow scripture to teach you the truth about God. And yes, all creation is "predetermined" by God. He leaves nothing up to chance or to mankind's "will":

**Isa 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: 11 Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it.**

God has a predetermined plan for mankind. He knows the end from the beginning because He knows that His "works" will accomplish everything that He has said He will do. He has spoken it and He will bring it to pass.

God is not a fortuneteller who looks into the future to see how things turn out just so that He can claim those end results as His own. This is utter nonsense and heresy. But amazingly, I have encountered many believers who use this false reasoning to explain from where God gets His foreknowledge. They quickly and easily throw the truth of God's Word out the window just so that they can hold onto their precious Doctrine of Free Will.

God's Word teaches that God's foreknowledge comes from His supreme ability to accomplish everything that He has predetermined to do:

**Isa 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.**

God does not look into the future to see how things end. God works all things to accomplish His "will" so that the end result is just as He foretold it would be.

**Eph 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,**

**Eph 1:11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: 12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.**

The First Fruits of Christ's harvest of mankind are "predestinated" by God from the foundation of the world. They are His workmanship and because they are, the First Fruits have nothing to boast about concerning their salvation. Certainly, the First Fruits do not believe in your false Doctrine of Free Will.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

This is where your human interpretation fails the point made by Scripture.

The Holy Spirit is at work in every single human from conception. John the Baptist is the prime example.

Giving us the Holy Spirit, while we are dead flesh is not a manipulation by God. It is the only means of working in the thought process, we would call spiritual as opposed to a physical experience. One that is tangible from the physical world around us, or even hearing the Word of God presented by another human in Adam's dead corruptible flesh.

You place this alleged coercion by God in opposition to the reality that God is working both spiritually and physically in our lives.

The placement of the Holy Spirit is to give us a choice, not to remove that choice and force us to become born of the Spirit.

Most people learn to tune out the Holy Spirit at a young age.

So God does not force the Holy Spirit into certain people, and then instantly they are "born again".

That is the wrong approach. God does enable one once they have accepted the Atonement of the Cross, with the power of the Holy Spirit working within. But that is a choice of submitting one's will. Being controlled by God after crucifying the flesh is not coercion. That is still a free will

decision at all times.

You seem to indicate the Holy Spirit is not at work until after given at various stages in life. That is not true. The Holy Spirit has been calling you on God's behalf from the time you were conceived.

The Holy Spirit has always been at work, and even more so once one submits to the Holy Spirit. The fact that the Holy Spirit was physically presented to the church at a single point in time does not negate that the Holy Spirit was already given at conception and already a witness on God's behalf.

Those disciples were already submitted to God, and ready and willing to be controlled by God. That has always been an available and ongoing phenomenon though not exactly as physical as was on the day of Pentecost.

Once again not going by the agreed upon definition. Free Will is never defined by the ability of the human.

Free will is not an attribute of God. God is the party that cannot coerce. How can God "not coerce" or "coerce" Himself?

Free will is defined by the lack of coercion from God or fate. Although fate does not exist. That point is placed by those who reject there is a God.

Free will is only God letting us make our own decisions that result in the destination when this creation no longer exist.

That has been expanded to make it palatable for nonbelievers.

Free will is not man's ability to do as he pleases without consequences.

That leaves out the part where one is coerced.

Laws are not a means of coercion. Laws control how creation itself can function with certain limits, thus a law.

God making impossible Laws to obey, or making the impossible happen contrary to law is not part of the coercion of Free Will.

That is about God dealing with a chosen people who may or may not be keen on the notion of being controlled. And the ability to keep one's own head under such conditions is still free will, because you still have to live with the decisions you make, not those out of your control that the decision is based upon.

Free will is the ability to choose, without that ability taken away. Of course if you have no more

ability to choose, neither do you have Free Will. In fact, many humans have birth defects that can severely limit one's Free Will. But no one can say they happened because of coercion. Even if God allowed it. Not everyone can exercise Free Will. That does not mean it is not an ability of all humans.

As pointed out. I do not rule out that God can work in certain humans in a coerced manner. That does not negate Free Will. They are exceptions to the point of Free Will.

A reprobate soul no longer has free will. I don't see that as reversible. God did remove their ability to choose. That is not coercion. That is the punishment of constant disobedience. Sure they can make choices, but the point about their eternal destination has been sealed. While free will is not just about Salvation, many claim soteriology as the reason free will does not exist, when in fact Salvation is really the only reason free will does exist. Free will is part of humans being restored back into sons of God. For the very reason that God does not coerce us into Salvation. Nor does everything else but God coerce us into damnation. I suppose we can coerce ourselves, but that is free will, because it is our choice.

T\_\_\_\_\_

Dear T\_\_\_\_\_,

You said:

The Holy Spirit is at work in every single human from conception. John the Baptist is the prime example.

Yes, God works in all mankind but this verse is not teaching about that truth. It is talking about the Early and/or Latter Rain of the Spirit. Without the Spirit, no one can understand or seek out Christ or call Him "Lord".

You are ignoring this verse which teaches the true spiritual condition mankind has from birth:

**Rom 3:10 As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one: 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.**

Also, John the Baptist was "called out from the world", as was the entire Nation of Israel. The nation received the Early Rain of the Spirit in "type". When Christ calls a person out from the world, they are given a measure of faith. When the Jewish Elect were converted on the Day of Pentecost, all they needed to receive was the Latter Rain of the Spirit.

The pattern the Jewish Elect followed is the same pattern the Gentile Elect must follow. They must first receive the Early Rain and be "called out". They will then "fall away" and remain spiritually lost until a converted believer comes to them in the spirit of Elijah. Christ will then cause them to respond to that call of repentance from works (belief in Free Will). Their repentance will make the pathway straight for Christ to "come again" to them. When Christ comes, He will pour out the Latter Rain of the Spirit upon them, just as He did for the Jewish Elect.



Any person who has not received the Early and/or Latter Rain will never call Jesus "Lord". Christ must come to them first (without their asking or permission) and give them the free gift of the Spirit. He gives it to them because of His grace and because He chose to give it to them at that time. The person played no part in it.

You said:

You place this alleged coercion by God in opposition to the reality that God is working both spiritually and physically in our lives.

I have never said that Christ coerces anyone to make a confession of faith. You must not be reading my posts. Christ will come to an unbeliever and give them the Spirit because it is a FREE GIFT. Christ will give them the free gift at a time of His own choosing. With the Early Rain of the Spirit, the person willingly makes a confession of faith when they are presented with the Gospel. Christ never coerces anyone - He changes their heart and mind to agree with Him.

You said:

The placement of the Holy Spirit is to give us a choice, not to remove that choice and force us to become born of the Spirit.

This is not true. It is a teaching of man who has a "works" based belief system.

Where is your faith to believe Christ when He says:

**1Cor 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed; and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Spirit.**

Once a person has the Spirit within them, they will no longer call Jesus accursed. They can make no other choice but to accept Jesus as "Lord". They willingly make this confession because the Spirit within them changed their heart and mind.

You said:

Most people learn to tune out the Holy Spirit at a young age.

This is another teaching of man. Mankind was made carnal and because of such, no man has the ability to "tune in" to the Holy Spirit.

Also, no one can go against God's "will". God is ALWAYS in full control of mankind. When Christ wants to cause a person to "believe" or "act" in a certain way, He will cause it to happen without their knowledge or permission. Your understanding of God is not based on the teachings of scripture.

**Dan 4:35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; and he doeth**

**according to his will in the army of the heavens, and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?**

Christ does as He pleases with mankind. Mankind is the work of His hands. We contributed nothing to who we are when we are born and we contribute nothing to who we later become (a child of God).

You said:

So God does not force the Holy Spirit into certain people, and then instantly they are "born again".

Again, this is a teaching of man. Paul's conversion was given in scripture to show in "type" the Pathway to Salvation. Paul's conversion is the pattern all others must follow:

**1Tim 1:16 Howbeit for this cause, I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.**

Christ's "longsuffering" occurs while one of His Elect are in an unconverted spiritual state. He suffers with His Elect while they are in this state until the time comes for their conversion. He converts them when He comes to them a second time and pours out the Latter Rain. After the Spirit is given, judgment will immediately follow. When their judgment is complete, they will be converted (**Mat 3:11-12**).

Christ came to Paul on the Damascus Road and gave Paul the Early Rain. Paul then immediately called Jesus "Lord". Paul's heart and mind were instantly changed so as to cause Paul to call Jesus "Lord". Paul did not ask for the Spirit nor did Paul give Christ permission to give him the Spirit. In fact, Paul hated Christ and was on his way to Damascus to persecute Christians. Paul had no intention of changing.

As it was with Paul, so it is with all people who are "called out from the world". Mankind hates Christ (just as Paul hated Christ) because all mankind is carnally minded.

**Rom 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.**

You said:

You seem to indicate the Holy Spirit is not at work until after given at various stages in life. That is not true. The Holy Spirit has been calling you on God's behalf from the time you were conceived.

This is another teaching of man and is not supported by scripture.

You said:

Those disciples were already submitted to God, and ready and willing to be controlled by God. That has always been an available and ongoing phenomenon though not exactly as physical as was on the day of Pentecost.

The disciples were already called out from the world and had been given a measure of faith. Christ then caused them to respond to the call of John the Baptist. They were chosen for this blessing and because they were, Christ did all the necessary spiritual work within them to lead them to their conversion on the Day of Pentecost.

**John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, BUT OF GOD.**

**John 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.**

**Rom 8:30 Moreover whom HE did predestinate, them HE also called: and whom he called, them HE also justified: and whom he justified, them HE also glorified.**

Where is man's supposed free will choices in the verse above? The salvation the Elect receive comes solely from the work of Christ within them.

**Rom 9:11 For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to ELECTION might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth.**

Every person who is saved in this age is saved according to the Election of God. They were chosen and predestinated for this blessing from the foundation of the world. Their "will" and "works" had nothing to do with their salvation, "lest any man should boast" (**Eph 2:8**).

As I have been saying, your beliefs are not coming from God's Word. They are coming from the teachings of this world.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Every single soul ever to exist from Adam and Eve was predestined and place in the Lamb's book of life.

Those who choose God because of free will, will remain in the Lamb's book of life.

Those who reject God because of "free will" will be removed.

To stay or remain is still an individual's choice. If one cannot choose, then free will does not matter, does it?

If one cannot choose salvation, what is the default position from God's perspective? Were they not still predestined? Who decides for them if not God?

Explain to me how one cannot choose, one does not have free will, and they cannot be coerced by God to even make a choice, even mean?

You are literally saying that God damns the majority to the LOF from the very beginning. They never had a chance to begin with, then explain to people that God is a loving God, but only for a select few who did not have a choice either.

Explain to me why so many verses in Scripture are about making a decision, when you claim no one can decide.

T\_\_\_\_\_

Dear T\_\_\_\_\_,

Your statements above are not taught in scripture.

We "choose" Christ because He gives us the Holy Spirit. Then, from the Spirit within us, our heart and mind is changed. Christ doesn't coerce anyone to make a decision. He changes us from within so that we make the decision He wants.

Also, 99.9999%+ of mankind is going to be saved at the end of the final age. Christ loves all mankind but He has only chosen a "few" to be blessed and saved in this present age. They are the Elect and are the First Fruits of Christ's harvest of mankind. The full harvest of mankind does not occur until the end of the final age. Why? Because God has decided to do it this way. Mankind has no say in the matter.

You said:

Explain to me why so many verses in Scripture are about making a decision, when you claim no one can decide.

I have been explaining it over and over again to you but you either can't understand what I have said or you just don't want to accept it.

Of course, mankind makes "decisions". However, mankind does not have a "free will" to make those decisions. Those decisions are caused by God.

God is Spirit and the spiritual world happens within mankind. Because mankind is carnal, we have no ability to perceive the spiritual work God is doing within us. From our perspective, we believe that we have made a free will decision, but we haven't.

When we make a decision, we do so "willingly" because Christ has (from His spiritual work) changed our heart and mind to agree with His "will".

God does as He pleases in the hearts and minds of mankind. We do not even have the right to ask God "why doeth thou?" (**Dan 4:35**). He is God and our Creator. He will make us into whatever creature He decides. And He has decided to make us all into His children. What mankind is going through at this time is the birth process of being born as a child of God. This is the purpose for this creation and God leaves nothing up to chance or up to mankind's "will". This is His creation and not ours.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

*FaithWillDo said:*

*Also, 99.9999%+ of mankind is going to be saved at the end of the final age.*

Neither is your statement "taught In Scripture"? Now what?

G\_\_\_\_\_

Dear G\_\_\_\_\_,

I did not claim that it is taught in scripture. It is my personal estimate based upon world population numbers and how few believers are actually chosen from the "many". It could just as well be 99.999% or even 99.99%. But one thing is certain to me, it is a very high percentage of mankind who will have to wait until the end of the final age for their salvation.

**Mat 22:14 For many are called, but few *are* chosen.**

Most of mankind is not "called". Then out of the "many" who are called, only a "few" have been chosen to be saved in this present age.

Up until the Gentiles were included under the New Covenant, the only people who had been called out from the world was the Nation of Israel.

From the Nation of Israel, only 120 persons were initially "chosen" to be First Fruits (Acts 1:15). It is debatable on the population of the Nation of Israel at that time but 120 can only be a small fraction of whatever that total actually was.

As for T\_\_\_\_\_, his beliefs are not taught in scripture because his beliefs are contradicted by scripture. I quoted numerous such verses. And because scripture does not contradict itself, his beliefs cannot be taught in scripture.

T\_\_\_\_\_ mostly did not quote scripture to support his beliefs. His main argument from scripture was that mankind can make "choices". Certainly, scripture teaches that truth. However, the point

he does not want to accept is that the choices which mankind makes are caused by God. I quoted many of those scriptures which say so and he has no answer for them.

**John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, BUT OF GOD.**

**Phil 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.**

**Prov 16:1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.**

**Prov 20:24 Man's goings are of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way?**

**Prov 21:1 The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.**

**Isa 26:12 O Jehovah, thou appointest peace to us, for, all our works also thou hast wrought for us.**

**Isa 64:8 But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.**

**Jer 10:23 I know, Jehovah, that the way of man is not his own; it is not in a man that walketh to direct his steps.**

Having the ability to make "choices" does not mean a person has a "free will".

Finally, I just edited the post which contains my comment on the 99.9999% so as to make it clearer.

It now reads "I personally believe that about 99.9999% of mankind..."

Thanks for your comment.

Joe

**Dear FaithWillDo,**

*FaithWillDo said:*

*However, the point he does not want to accept is that the choices which mankind makes are caused by God. I quoted many of those scriptures which say so and he has no answer for them.*

**Because God did not cause the choice.**

All those verses apply after the choice is made by each individual. When a person chooses God, then God does give them the power to live for God.

You are putting the power before the choice.

When you place the power before the choice that is coercion.

The verse does not say that God gave people the power to receive Him. It says that the many that received Him, to them He gave the power. One has to receive God, and that is the free will choice.

Many are called, few are chosen. You change that around to only the elect are chosen, thus only a few are the elect. The elect are every single human on earth. God elected every one by dying on the Cross for everyone.

The many are all who hear the gospel. The free will choice is about those who do accept the gift of salvation. That is only a few out of all those elected.

The few who choose are still chosen by God. That never changed once in the process. They are still elect. That never changed once in the process. Nor did God coerce them into salvation. That never changed in the whole process.

What remains constant is that the majority of the elect exercised their free will and were allowed to reject God and end up in the LOF.

Many also asked why is not every one called? Why does it seem God does not care? Many don't realize that the Holy Spirit works in every single soul from conception. God is at work calling but the cares of life drown out this calling. That is why Paul wrote Romans 10:13-18

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! **But they have not all obeyed the gospel.** For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world."

Paul seems to think that all have heard.

Since God is not willing that any should perish, He was the means of salvation. No one else could take sin away. But many seem to deny that God placed the Holy Spirit also as a witness. Not just after conversion. Conversion is when a soul finally submits to the calling of the Holy Spirit.

Many think they can fall in and out of submission. That still goes back to few are chosen. People don't get the luxury of changing their minds. Either they are in or out. Free will is not a license to sin and keep sinning. Those who think they can enjoy both sin and God are deceiving themselves and the truth is not in them. They are not born from above, but still exercising their right to follow their own will. Free will is only the ability to choose without coercion.

Free will is not the ability to change one's mind over and over again. That is not in the definition. Free will does not over ride Adam's dead corruptible flesh. Free will remains as long as the flesh is held in check. Salvation does not remove one from Adam's dead corruptible flesh. Only physical death can do that. Free will does not reduce the power of our fleshly desires. As pointed out one can lose the ability to choose. God can take away that choice. Those without free will don't get a second chance. Free will is not defined as coming and going. But God won't let any human just get away with destroying His creation. God can step in and force people who are reprobate to remain limited in their actions. He certainly does not force them into subjection, nor back into a choice leading to salvation. Read Daniel 4.

T\_\_\_\_\_

Dear T\_\_\_\_\_,

It is most telling that you did not support anything you said in your post with scripture. Most of your statements have no scriptural support at all. Your beliefs are coming from mankind's carnal reasoning and from the deceptions of Satan.

You said:

Because God did not cause the choice.

That is not what scripture teaches:

**Prov 16:1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.**

**Jer 10:23 I know, Jehovah, that the way of man is not his own; it is not in a man that walketh to direct his steps.**

**John 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.**

You said:

When a person chooses God, then God does give them the power to live for God.

Yes, that is true. However, their "choice" comes from God and not from their supposed "free will" ability.



Unless Christ intervenes within a person and gives them the Early Rain of the Spirit, they will reject Him due to their carnal spiritual condition they have from birth:

**Rom 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.**

**Rom 3:10 As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one: 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.**

You said:

The verse does not say that God gave people the power to receive Him. It says that the many that received Him, to them He gave the power. One has to receive God, and that is the free will choice.

**John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.**

The "power" is the Holy Spirit. It is what causes the new birth. This new birth happens because the person received Christ. When a person receives Christ, it happens NOT because of their "will", it happens because of God's "will". You are twisting the clear teaching of the scripture to accommodate your pre-existing belief.

You said:

Many are called, few are chosen. You change that around to only the elect are chosen, thus only a few are the elect. The elect are every single human on earth. God elected every one by dying on the Cross for everyone.

The Elect are chosen by God. They are the heirs who have been chosen to receive the blessings of God.

**Rom 9:11 (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth.**

Esau was not chosen by God to be one of the Elect. Why? So that the purpose of God according to the "election" might stand.

**Rom 11:15 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.**

The "remnant" are the few who have been elected for salvation in this age.

**Rom 11:7 What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded.**

The "election" has obtained salvation and God blinded the rest so that they could not obtain it. The Elect are chosen by God "from the foundation of the world" for this blessing:

**John 15:19** **If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.**

**Eph 1:4** **According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:**

**2Thes 2:13** **But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:**

**1Pet 2:9** **But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:**

Most of mankind is not even "called". And from those who are "called", only a "few" are chosen. You have no scripture which says differently.

You said:

Free will is not the ability to change one's mind over and over again. That is not in the definition. Free will does not over ride Adam's dead corruptible flesh. Free will remains as long as the flesh is held in check. Salvation does not remove one from Adam's dead corruptible flesh. Only physical death can do that. Free will does not reduce the power of our fleshly desires. As pointed out one can lose the ability to choose. God can take away that choice. Those without free will don't get a second chance. Free will is not defined as coming and going. But God won't let any human just get away with destroying His creation. God can step in and force people who are reprobate to remain limited in their actions.

This statement is very confusing. It is an extra-biblical teaching which comes from the reasoning of the carnal mind.

Here is the definition of Free Will:

**The belief that people have a choice in what they do and that their choices have not been decided in advance by God or by any other power.**

Where did the belief in free will come from?

It did not come from scripture. Here is what I found:

**The notion of free will has been attributed to both Aristotle (fourth century BC) and**

## Epictetus (1st century AD).

The church believes that for a person to be sent to hell, they have to be personally responsible for being sent there, otherwise, it would be unjust and unfair. For this reason, the Doctrine of Free Will was created and accepted into the church so as to support their false teaching on hell.

Shortly after the time of the Apostles, the church become apostate and void of truth.

The whole loaf of bread which is now being consumed by the church is secretly leavened:

**Mat 13:33 Another parable spoke he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.**

For that reason, there is no truth in the church as there was in the beginning. The wolves came into the church just as Paul said:

**Acts 20:29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.**

The Doctrines of Free Will and Hell are "leavened bread" and do not come from the teachings of scripture. They were created by the "wolves" who came into the church.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

*FaithWillDo said:*

*Having the ability to make "choices" does not mean a person has a "free will".*

What is the definition of free will? Your point would be that no one can even make choices. You are not sticking to the definition, and then declaring free will null and void.

I am not convinced that God does all the choosing in life.

We make choices all the time.

Once again you force the Word of God to say we are just a predetermined program.

If that were the case then Jesus is not God, and God never provided the gift of salvation. You just think that happened, since it is part of a programmed script.

That would make God narcissistic, cruel, and practically evil to only force some people into believing a lie, that never really was intended to provide salvation any way.

Creation is just one 6,000 years long evil dictatorship, and God forces some people to think He is good and kind. That is your pre-determined creation. Then God forces some to do nothing, while the rest is destroyed in the LOF.

In fact, in your world, choices don't even make a difference. Every thing would happen the same way no matter what. There would be no cause and effect at all. No one would have a will at all. Only God is doing all the action, and you are just a puppet on a string.

Besides we don't have a free will. No such thing as a free will. The term free will is not something you own. A will has consequences when it is exercised. The term free will is not just about exercising one's will. That is the wrong idea, that I have been telling you to avoid. The term free will only deals with the ability to choose without any outside coercion.

No one is forcing you to reply to this post. That is your ability to choose without coercion.

T\_\_\_\_\_

Dear T\_\_\_\_\_,

There is no reason to continue our discussion since your understanding of "truth" is not coming from scripture.

I have shown you the verses which contradict your beliefs but you refuse to accept what they teach. I can do nothing more.

Joe