



Election: Does God Choose? The Donelson Men in Christ

**John 1:1-5,14,18; Hebrews 1:1-4; I John 1:1-5;
Hebrews 2:1-4; John 5:39-40;
John 14: 6-11, 22- 25 John 12:37-50; Revelation
19:11-13**

Dr Moffat wrote in the *preface* of his translation of the New Testament. “No one who attempts to translate any part of the New Testament is likely to remain very long under the delusion (that there is an exact interchangeable equivalent idea or term/word) in moving from one language to another. Thus there is no exact English equivalent for terms like **λόγος** or **μυστήριον** or **δικαιοσύνη**.”

Karl Barth wrote in a class lecture: “The *revealed Word of God* we know only from the scripture adopted by Church proclamation, (but only from church proclamation based on Scripture). The written *Word of God* we know only through the revelation which makes proclamation possible, or through the proclamation made possible by revelation. The *proclaimed Word of God* we know only by knowing the revelation attested through Scripture, or by knowing the Scripture which attests revelation.”

God has chosen - God elected - to be in union with man - humans - and God determined - elected - the method. Originally this was communicated (God spoke) through mediators - angels - symbols - prophets (chosen humans). But when God determined: God spoke/speaks to man through (in) Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Word - Logos - of the speaking God.

1. He communicates to man,
2. He reveals himself to man through Christ.
3. Even the written Word is now secondary.
4. Jesus - the man - was God preaching - his life fulfilled scripture and was consistent with it: **Luke 24:44** *Then he said to them, "These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled."*

For Barth, all of God's dealings with man are in and through Jesus. Any knowledge we have of God comes through Christ - “*anyone who has seen me has seen the Father*,” **John 14:9**. This revelation that lies at the very heart of scripture, and the preaching of the church; it rejects human speculation. Jesus is both the message and the messenger - both the electing God and the elect - he speaks truth but is truth.

II Corinthians 5:17-21; Titus 2:11-13; II Peter 1:1; John 20:28; Romans 9:4-5
“They are Israelites, so to them belongs the sonship, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the Law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, by human descent, came the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever! Amen.”