

## DOES man have the CHOICE to REJECT God ?

Wm Tipton

### Assertions/Conclusions of this article

Simply to show that scripture does support the idea that man does have free will to reject God both before and after having come under this covenant.

### Supporting Evidence

*Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him and he with Me. (Revelation 3:20 MKJV)*

And open the door -

This must be his own act, receiving power for this purpose from his offended Lord, who will not break open the door; he will make no forcible entry.

-Adam Clarke

And open the door -

As one would when a stranger or friend stood and knocked. The meaning here is simply, if anyone will admit me; that is, receive me as a friend. The act of receiving him is as voluntary on our part as it is when we rise and open the door to one who knocks.

-Albert Barnes

and open the door;

or show a readiness for the coming of Christ, look and wait for it, and be like such that will receive him with a welcome:

-John Gill

*See that **you do not refuse Him** who speaks. For if they did not escape, **having refused Him** who warned them, how much more shall we not escape **if we turn away from Him** who warns from heaven; whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, "Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also the heaven." (Heb 12:25-26)*

*how shall we escape **if we neglect so great a salvation**, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by those who heard Him; (Heb 2:3 MKJV)*

*For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, **than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment** delivered unto them. 2 Peter 2:21*

*For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.*

*He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?*

*For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

*But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions; Partly, whilst ye were made a gazingstock both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used. For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.*

*Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.*

*Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.*

*But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul. (Heb 10:26-39 KJV)*

The statement "we are not of them who draw back unto perdition" is entirely absurd \*IF\* 'them' had not actually 'draw back' to perdition.

And the writers EXHORTATION TO these believing Hebrews is VOID of ANY and ALL meaning in REFERRING to these who had 'DRAWN BACK' in his warning to these believers \*IF\* they could not do the very same thing.

*For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame . For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God: But that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing; whose end is to be burned.*

*But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak. (Heb 6:4-9 KJV)*

Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus; Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house. For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house. For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.

And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after; But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways. So I sware in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.)

Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end; While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation. For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses. But with whom was he grieved forty years? was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness? And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief. (Heb 3:1-19 KJV)

## 2.0

### Does man play a part in his 'election' and salvation ?

Therefore, brothers, rather be diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you do these things, you shall never fall. (2 Peter 1:10 MKJV)

So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is working in you, both to will and to do for His good pleasure. (Philippians 2:12-13 EMTV)

And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

And they said, **Believe** on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. (Act 16:30-31 KJV)

Act 3:19 **Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out,** when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

He that believeth on him is not condemned: but **he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed** in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

(Joh 3:18 KJV)

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