I ENDURE FOR THE SAKE OF THE ELECT

2 Timothy 2:10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

Remember Jesus Christ

2 Timothy 2:8&9 Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God’s word is not chained.

Romans 1:1-4(ESV) Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,

2 Timothy 1:16 May the Lord show mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains.

Philippians 1:12-14 Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.

Philippians 4:22 All God’s people here send you greetings, especially those who belong to Caesar’s household.

I Endure for the Sake of the Elect

2 Timothy 2:10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

“Elect” is *“eklektos”* which literally “signifies picked out, chosen.” (Vines) *“Eklego”* means to “choose” and *“ekloge”* means “choice” (Strong’s Analytical Concordance). If you are a Christian, you have been chosen.

Ephesians 1:4 For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.

Romans 9:10-13 Not only that, but Rebekah’s children were conceived at the same time before our father Isaac. Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad – in order that God’s purpose in election might stand: not by works but by him who calls – she was told, “The older will serve the younger.” Just as it is written: “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”

The first quote is from Genesis 25:25. The second quote is from Malachi 1:3 and is about God’s attitude toward Esau after his descendants helped the Babylonians destroy Jerusalem and kill, enslave, or deport its people (Obadiah 10-14).

Hebrews 12:15-17 See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that not bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many. See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son. Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. Even though he sought the blessing with tears, he could not change what he had done.

I Peter 1:1&2(NASB) Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who are chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, that you may obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with his blood.

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

John 3:16-18 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.

Romans 4:16a(ESV) That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace

Matthew 22:14(ESV) “For many are called, but few are chosen.”

That They too May Obtain Salvation

2 Timothy 2:10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

A very free paraphrase would be, “I suffer what I am suffering so that those God has chosen to be saved will be saved.”

Romans 10:13&14(TLB) Anyone who call upon the name of the Lord will be saved. But how shall they ask him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?

Ezekiel 33:1-4 The word of the Lord came to me: “Son of man, speak to your people and say to them: ‘When I bring the sword against a land, and the people of the land choose one of their men and make him their watchman, and he sees the sword coming against the land and blows the trumpet to warn the people, then if anyone hears the trumpet but does not heed the warning and the sword comes and takes their life, their blood will be on their own head.’ ”

Ezekiel 33:5&6 “ ’Since they heard the sound of the trumpet but did not heed the warning, their blood will be on their own head. If they had heeded the warning, they would have saved themselves. But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet to warn the people and the sword comes and takes someone’s life, that person’s life will be taken because of their sin, but I will hold the watchman accountable for his blood.’ ”

Ezekiel 33:7 “Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me.”

Ezekiel 33:8&9 “When I say to the wicked, ‘You wicked person, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for the blood. But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.”

Acts 18:5&6 When Silas and Timothy came from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself exclusively to preaching, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Messiah. But when they opposed Paul and became abusive, he shook out his clothes in protest and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent of it. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.”

Things to Remember

If you have asked Christ to be your Savior, you are chosen. God has orchestrated the events of your life to bring you to Himself and it’s all by grace.

But God loves the world; He does not want anyone to perish.

Also the fact that God calls us elect or chosen does not mean he does not use people to bring people to Himself.

Paul was enduring imprisonment because he refused to stop proclaiming the Gospel, because he knew that people had to hear to believe and be saved.

He realized that if he didn’t proclaim the Gospel people would be lost and he would be accountable for their not hearing.

The church individually and collectively is accountable for proclaiming the Gospel and will be held accountable if we fail to do so.