



# Chosen for Life, Holiness, and Love

*Colossians 3:12*

Paul gives us three wonderful **unconditional expressions** of what God created in and for you before He ever created the world you live in.

You were...

# I. Unconditionally Chosen

*“And so, as **those** who have been **chosen of God...**”*

*“**Those**”* refers to us as a **community/family**

*“**Have been chosen**”* is an expression of God’s **sovereign** activity in **eternity past.**

# I. Unconditionally Chosen

**We** are a collective of **those** He **chose**.

# I. Unconditionally Chosen

His **choice of you** in eternity past connects **His** sovereignty to **your** salvation.

# I. Unconditionally Chosen

*“For those whom He **foreknew**, He also **predestined** to become conformed to the image of His Son...” (Romans 8:29)*

# I. Unconditionally Chosen

*“...just as **He chose us** in [Christ] before the foundation of the world, that we would be **holy** and **blameless** before Him. **In love** He **predestined us** to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself.” (Eph. 1:4-5)*

# I. Unconditionally Chosen

*“...according to the **foreknowledge** of God the Father.” (1 Pet. 1:1-2)*

# I. Unconditionally Chosen

What does it mean for God to *foreknow* us?

It refers to a “predetermined choice by God. It is the knowing of **predetermined intimate relationship** as when God said to Jeremiah, ‘*Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you*’ (Jer. 1:5). Jesus spoke of the same kind of knowing when He said, ‘*I am the good shepherd; and I know My own*’ (John 10:14).” (John MacArthur)

## II. Unconditionally Consecrated

*“And so, as those who have been chosen of God, **holy**...”*

## II. Unconditionally Consecrated

*“[God] made [Jesus] who knew no sin to be sin **on our behalf**, so that **we might become** the righteousness of God in [Jesus].” (2 Cor. 5:21)*

## II. Unconditionally Consecrated

“The Father is as concerned to exalt the Son as He is to rescue the lost... and it is as true to say that the elect were appointed for Christ the beloved Son as it is to say that Christ was appointed for the beloved elect...” (J.I. Packer)

## II. Unconditionally Consecrated

*“He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will.”* (Eph. 1:5)

- I. Unconditionally Chosen
- II. Unconditionally Consecrated
- III. Unconditionally Cherished**

### III. Unconditionally Cherished

*“And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and **beloved**...”*

*God “predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself.” (Eph. 1:5)*

### III. Unconditionally Cherished

#### What is your will?

It is your center for **activating choice**. To say, 'I want this, I choose that, I'm going to do this' are expressions of your will.

Your will **determines** and **sets in motion** the desires of your heart.

### III. Unconditionally Cherished

Unbelievers are not free to choose the good of what will please and honor God. *Why not?*

Without Jesus Christ, we are all in **bondage** to the deceptive and corrupting influences of sin and, in this condition, we are helpless to help ourselves.

### III. Unconditionally Cherished

*I once was lost in darkest night, yet thought I knew the way  
The sin that promised joy and life had led me to the grave  
I had no hope that you would own a rebel to Your will  
And if You had **not loved me first** I would refuse you still*

(Jordan Kauflin, *All I Have is Christ*)

### III. Unconditionally Cherished

*“We love, **because** He first loved us.” (1 John 4:19)*

### III. Unconditionally Cherished

How does human will, **totally in bondage to sin**, respond to God's commands to repent and believe?

Our will **responds** to God's will loving us **to Himself**.

### III. Unconditionally Cherished

*“No one can come to Me, unless the Father who sent Me **draws** him...”*  
(John 6:44)

*“All that the **Father gives** to Me **will come to Me**, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.”* (John 6:37)

*“But as many as received Him, to them **He gave** the right to become children of God, even to **those** who believe in His name, who were born, [saved] not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, **but of God.**”* (John 1:12-13)

### III. Unconditionally Cherished

*“Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but **according to His own purpose and grace** which was **granted** us in Christ Jesus from all **eternity...**” (2 Tim. 1:8-9)*

### III. Unconditionally Cherished

*But as I ran my hell-bound race, indifferent to the cost*

*You looked upon my **helpless state** and led me to the cross*

***And I beheld God's love displayed:** You suffered in my place*

*You bore the wrath reserved for me; now all I know is grace*

*Hallelujah! All I have is Christ*

*Hallelujah! Jesus is my life*

*(Jordan Kauflin, All I Have is Christ)*

GRACE CHURCH  
WILLIAMSBURG