Justin Wichman and Rob Gerber 02/25/2024

Genesis 25:23
Predestination & Free Will

God's Sovereignty and Man's Choice

Predestination & Free Will

"Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger."

-Genesis 25:23

"'Was not Esau Jacob's brother?' the Lord says. 'Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have hated."

-Malachi 1:2-3

"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.' It does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy."

-Romans 9:15-16

Is Salvation A Choice

Or A Compulsion?

Do Some Choose Jesus

Or

Does God Choose Some?

Case for Free Will

". . . I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live."

-Deuteronomy 30:19

"In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent."

-Acts 17:30

"This is good and pleases God our Savor, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth."

-1 Timothy 2:3-4

"Say to them, 'As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, O house of Israel?"

-Ezekiel 33:11

Case for Predestination

"as it is written: 'None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.'"

-Romans 3:10-12

Isaiah 64:6 Jerimiah 17:9 Genesis 6:5

"And he said, 'This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father."

-John 6:65

Can vs. May

Ability vs Permission

"And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh,

carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved."

-Ephesians 2:1-5

Case for Unity

God is Sovereign and Powerful

God is Good

"The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all He has made."

-Psalm 145:17