

## 2 Timothy 1:9

Romans 8:28 THE called--its an important small word that should not be skipped... To be called happens before you are even born!

2 Peter 1:10 make your calling and election sure through hard work, constant effort, diligence. "Sure"=strong, more permanent, solid, fast

Romans 9:9-13 an example of God's purposes in the life of the believer & unbeliever... Consider Jacob and Esau (twins), defined before they were even born...as were Isaac vs Ishmael (half brothers, some 13 years apart). In both cases, one was considered acceptable, and the other not so much... one set with the same biological/ethnic heritage, the other with separate heritages. It all depended on the eternal purposes of God Himself and His plans for the outworking of the coming Messiah... we don't always (or usually!) understand, but we are to trust Him anyway. God does not always follow man's traditions nor conventions...

Verse 13 "hated"=the one not chosen; detested; Strong's Gk 3404

**Peter calls us to make our calling and election sure--God has called us and elected us; He is Sovereign over all His creation. We are His clay to be molded and used as He wishes, including tossing it away...**

Malachi 1:1-4 God speaks, and refers to Jacob and Esau in explaining His love for us verses the detestation He had and has for those who chose evil. But it also refers to the fact that if we are called, we were chosen before we were even born...

Verse 2 loved= Hebrew 157 have great affection for

Verse 3 hated= Hebrew 8130 to hate personally; in opposition; an enemy; odious

**Election is unconditional; judgment is conditional**

God chooses the ones He calls---those who will be lost are lost due to sin, rejecting His call, or those chosen before the foundation of the world to be His tools and even made for destruction. This is a hard word, but in the Scriptures. Remember, God is outside of time and knows what each will chose...

*If you have answered the call, how do you make it sure? Know Him and what pleases and what angers Him. We are to "eschew" evil. If we know to do right and do it not, we choose sin over God and His ways.*

His ways are so above ours and will have mercy on whomever He chooses. We are not to second guess God... Who are we to be a judge of the Eternal Almighty? He is the determiner, not us...

So, you want to make your calling and election sure?

Follow His leading, know His word, do His ways, and rejoice that He has chosen you, His elect!

Closing hymn: Trust and Obey

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