

5/16/18

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Bible comforts me with the profound promise that God chose me to be his own. Before he created me—even before he created the world—God chose me! This promise powerfully proclaims that I am not an afterthought in the mind of God. He knew me in the timelessness of eternity and intensely treasures me to this day.

Yet how can I be so certain that I am God’s chosen child? The devil assaults me with his personal accusations. He points out the glaring guilt of my many sins. He reminds me of my ever-present sinful nature that still desires to rebel against my gracious God and his holy will. With each passing day, the old evil foe threatens to drive me into the darkness of doubt and despair.

In my distress Christ calls to me through the light of his gospel. He refreshes me with the good news that I am a chosen child of God because he was chosen to be my Savior from sin. He was chosen to be the holy, unblemished Lamb of God, whose perfect innocence now covers me.

He was chosen to be the suffering Lamb of sacrifice, who carried the deep debt of my every sin to the cross and satisfied that debt with his own lifeblood. I live each day assured that I belong to him and that he is forever committed to caring for me with his perpetual gift of grace.

In Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” ... You are a chosen people,

a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

1 Peter 2:6,9

Jesus is the chosen and precious cornerstone. He forever stands as the foundation of my confidence and the light of my life. Although the world rejects Christ and treats his people as outcasts, those who trust in Jesus will never be put to shame. His unyielding love compels me to continually declare his praises with my lips and my life.

Prayer: *Dear Jesus, you are the rock of my faith. Thank you for clearly and constantly revealing the light of your forgiveness and grace to me, your chosen child. Amen.*

(WELS E-Devotion, adapted)

...See you in worship.

Keep looking up because the Lord is always looking down – Psalm 121

Pastor Alan W. Gumm

Phone: 630-947-4317 - revagumm@hotmail.com