



chosen &
choosing
How God's life becomes ours

Week 3: *Freedom for Faith*

Time for a theology check. Let's see what the Brethren In Christ and other Anabaptist or Wesleyan denominations say about the issues of this series so far...

The image of God in each person includes the capacity to make moral choices. We can choose good or evil, to obey or disobey God. The freedom to choose makes us responsible for our decisions and liable for their consequences.

-- Brethren In Christ, *Articles of Faith & Doctrine*

Each of us is accountable to God based on his or her personal ability to know and to choose good from evil.

-- Brethren In Christ, *Articles of Faith & Doctrine*

With the fall of the human race into sin, the image of God in humanity was seriously flawed, but not totally destroyed. In spite of a bend toward evil, aspects of God's likeness remain in humankind, glimpsed in such characteristics as creativity, generosity, and compassion. Nevertheless, it is only by God's grace that people can respond to God's gift of salvation.

-- Brethren In Christ, *Articles of Faith & Doctrine*

It is the Spirit who prepares us for faith in Jesus Christ. He awakens us to our need, enables us to acknowledge our guilt, and calls us to respond to God in faith and obedience. ... All who come to faith in Christ are born again, receive the Holy Spirit, and become children of God.

-- Brethren In Christ, *Articles of Faith & Doctrine*

By the sin of Adam, humans as the offspring of Adam are corrupted in their very nature so that from birth they are inclined to sin. ... By God's grace and help, people are enabled to do good works with a free will.

-- The Free Methodist Church of Canada,
Articles of Religion

Convicted by the Holy Spirit, people turn from sin, entrust their lives to God, confess Jesus Christ as Lord, and join the family of God.

-- Mennonite Brethren of Canada,
Confession of Faith

Those who repent and believe in Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit and receive eternal life.

-- Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, *Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths*

The grace of God through Jesus Christ is freely bestowed upon all people, enabling all who will to turn from sin.

-- Church of the Nazarene, *Articles of Faith*

When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to me.

-- **Jesus**