

Has the Word of God  
failed? (verses 6-13)

“Yes, election causes many difficulties. But the best reason for accepting the doctrine is that every alternative creates even more problems and difficulties. The first is that without ‘election’ you compromise the central teaching of the Bible that we are saved by grace alone, not by our works. If the difference between the unbeliever and the believer is ultimately in us ..., then we are the real authors of our salvation.”

- Tim Keller

Is God unjust? (verses  
14-18)

“When God hardens someone, he doesn’t create the hardness; he simply allows the person to go his or her own way. God hardens those he wants to harden. And all those whom he hardens want to be hardened.”

- Tim Keller

“The wonder is not that some are saved and others not, but that anybody is saved at all. For we deserve nothing at God’s hand but judgment ... If therefore anybody is lost, the blame is theirs, but if anybody is saved, the credit is God’s.”

– John Stott

Why does God still  
blame us? (verses  
19-29)

“It is so encouraging to realize that we can know Him, even though we do not understand Him. But then, if God were small enough for our minds, He would not be big enough for our needs.”

– Horst Fiebig

“Christ nowhere commands the elect to come to him. He commands all people everywhere to repent and believe the gospel. The question for you is not, ‘Am I one of the elect?’ but ‘Am I a sinner?’ Christ came to save sinners.”

- Robert Murray M'Cheyne