

## **" Many are called but few are chosen."**

Convey My greetings to My loved ones, whom God hath singled out for His love, and caused them to achieve their objects. All glory be to God, the Lord of all worlds.  
Baha'u'llah G172

O Jacob My servant; and Israel whom I have chosen.

2Th 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

From the beginning of time God chose you to find salvation in the spirit.

Jas 2:5 Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

1Pe 2:9 But ye [are] a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Re 17:14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him [are] called, and chosen, and faithful.

Mt 22:14 For many are called, but few [are] chosen.

Jn 15:16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you...

His Holiness Christ - may my spirit be His sacrifice! - saith in the Gospel, "Many are called but few are chosen" That is many have been invited to faith but few chosen for guidance.  
TAB 306

That is to many is it offered, but rare is the soul who is singled out for the great bestowal of guidance.  
WAB 9

It is from the bounty of God that man is selected for the highest degree; and the differences that exist between men in regard to spiritual progress and heavenly

perfections are also due to the choice of the Compassionate One. For faith which is life eternal is the sign of bounty and not the result of justice.

SAQ 130

He will confer particular mercy upon whom He pleaseth.

QURAN

ALLAH guides whomsoever HE pleases to the right path.

QURAN 2:214

And ALLAH guides not the disbelieving people.

QURAN 9:37

You cannot help a man if God seeks to confound him. Those whose hearts God does not please to purify shall earn disgrace in this world and grievous punishment in the hereafter.

Quoran 5:42

But the discerning faith which consists of true knowledge of God and the comprehension of divine words, of such faith there is very little in any age. That is why His Holiness Christ said to His followers, " Many are called but few are chosen."

BWF 364 Abdul Baha

Consider how there are thousands of heedless souls who are asleep, while there is one who is conscious and awake! Even as His Holiness Christ has said, the friends of God are the salt of the earth, and the salt is but a little part of the whole. Undoubtedly the friends of God have been endowed with ability and capacity, on which account they become of the "chosen" and not of the "called".

TAB 109

Even as Christ declared, "Many are called but few are chosen" Verily God has chosen you for His love and knowledge; God has chosen you for the worthy service of unifying mankind; God has chosen you for the purpose of investigating reality and promulgating international peace; God has chosen you for the progress and development of humanity.

`Abdu'l-Baha PUP

O ye who are the chosen ones of the Abha Kingdom...From amongst all mankind hath He chosen you, and your eyes have been opened to the light of guidance and your ears attuned to the music of the company above; and blessed by abounding grace, your hearts and souls have been born into new life.

Thank ye and praise ye God that the hand of infinite bestowals hath set upon your heads this gem studded crown, this crown who's lustrous jewels will forever flash and sparkle down all the reaches of time...Raise ye a clamour like unto the roaring sea; rain down the grace of heaven. Lift up your voices and sing out the songs of the Abha Realm.

God says in His great Book Quran, "He specializes with His Mercy whomsoever He willeth." That is, God distinguisheth with His bestowal a number of souls and marks them with His own seal of approval. A similar statement is revealed in the Gospel, "Many are called but few are chosen." Now praise be to God that thou art of those "Few." Appreciate thou the value of this bounty, and occupy thy time as much as thou canst in the diffusion of the fragrances of God.

`Abdu'l-Baha in a letter to Howard Colby Ives. Portals to Freedom p249

## **Angels of Fire and Snow.**

The hearts that yearn after Thee, O my God, are burnt up with the fire of their longing for Thee, and the eyes of them that love Thee weep sore by reason of their crushing separation from Thy court, and the voice of the lamentation of such as have set their hopes on Thee hath gone forth throughout Thy dominions.

Thou hast Thyself, O my God, protected them by Thy sovereign might, from both extremities. But for the burning of their souls and the sighing of their hearts, they would be drowned in the midst of their tears, and but for the flood of their tears they would be burnt up by the fire of their hearts and the heat of their souls. Methinks they are like the angels which Thou hast created of snow and of fire...

*Prayers and Meditations of Baha'u'llah No 94*

It is not to the tangible blazing fire of Sinai that you have come...no, you have come to Mount Zion, the City of the Living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to myriads of angels, to the full concourse of and heavenly assembly of the first born who are enrolled in heaven.

Heb 12.18

They will be like angels and will never die, they are sons of God because they have risen from death.

Lk 20.36

Before God and Christ Jesus and the angels who are His chosen.

1 Timothy 1.6

Mt 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

The meaning of "Angels" is the confirmations of God and His celestial powers. Likewise Angels are blessed beings who have severed all ties with this nether world have been released from the chains of self and the desires of the flesh and anchored their hearts to the heavenly realms of God.

WAB 81

Those souls that in this day enter the divine kingdom and attain everlasting life, although materially dwelling on earth, yet in reality soar in the realm of heaven, their bodies may linger on the earth but their spirits travel in the immensity of space. For as thoughts widen and become illumined they acquire the power of flight and transport man to the kingdom of God.

WAB 202

And now concerning His words: "And He shall send His angels...(Koran 3.119) By Angels is meant those who, reinforced by the power of the spirit, have consumed, with the fire of the love of God, all human traits and limitations, and have clothed themselves with the attributes of the most exalted Beings and of the Cherubim...

And now, inasmuch as these holy beings have sanctified themselves from every human limitation, have become endowed with the attributes of the spiritual, and have been adorned with the noble traits of the blessed, they therefore have been designated as angels.

KI 78

For these divine injunctions tame every ferocious beast, transform the creeping insect into a soaring bird, cause human souls to become angels of the Kingdom, and make the human world a focus for the qualities of mercy.

WAB 293

For I say unto you that He has chosen you to be His messengers of love throughout the world.

Paris Talks 68

I hope you may be quickened and vivified by the breaths of the Holy Spirit. Then shall ye indeed become the angels of heaven whom Christ promised would appear in this Day to gather the harvest of divine planting. This is my hope. This is my prayer for you.

PUP 7

"...now is the time that you may divest yourselves from the garment of attachment to this phenomenal realm, be wholly severed from the physical world, become angels of heaven and travel and teach through all these regions."

Tablets of the Divine Plan. p11. `Abdu'l-Baha

Lo this is no other than a noble angel...(See Gleanings 135

Ye are the angels, if your feet be firm, your spirits rejoiced, your secret thoughts pure, your eyes consoled, your ears opened, your breasts dilated with joy, and your souls gladdened, and if you arise to assist the Covenant, to resist dissension and to be attracted to the Effulgence!

Bahai Readings 123

## **Sons of God.**

We know and we see the light, we go close to it, are warmed by it, and reflect its rays on others; This is real faith, and thus we receive power to become the eternal sons of God.

Abdul Baha in London 65

Excerpts from the Bible.

On the human level he was the descendant of David, but on the level of the spirit he was proclaimed the Son of God.

Romans 1.3 +7K4

It is not to the tangible blazing fire of Sinai that you have come...no, you have come to Mount Zion, the City of the Living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to myriads of angels, to the full concourse of and heavenly assembly of the first born who are enrolled in heaven.  
Heb 12.18

Ex 4:22 And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel [is] my son, [even] my firstborn:

Those who are led by God's spirit are God's sons.

Romans 8.1

What manner of love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God.

1Jn 3.1

They are God's people; He made them His sons and revealed His glory to them.

Romans 9.4

They will be like angels and will never die, they are sons of God because they have risen from death.

Lk 20.36

All of creation waits with eager longing for God to reveal His sons.

Blessed are the peace-makers for they sons of God shall be called.

Matt 5.9

## **The Resurrection**

We have chosen Thee to be our most mighty Trumpet, Whose blast is to signalize the resurrection of all mankind.

Gleanings 31

Ho 6:2 After two days he will revive us: in the third day  
he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

1Pe 3:18 For Christ... being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: [Good News] He was put to death physically, but made alive spiritually. [See Acts 9.5 and 1Cor 15.3-8]

Joh 11:24 Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise  
again in the resurrection at the last day. +7K4

Joh 11:25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and  
the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet  
shall he live:

2Ti 2:18 Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that  
the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of  
some.

Isa 65:17 For, behold, I create new heavens and a new  
earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into  
mind.

Revelation 20

6 Blessed and holy [is] he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second  
death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with  
him a thousand years.

Joh 5:29 And shall come forth; they that have done good,  
unto the resurrection of life;

Joe 3:18 And it shall come to pass in that day, [that] the  
mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow  
with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with  
waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the  
LORD, and shall water the valley of Shittim. (Acacia)

Therefore, we say that the meaning of Christ's resurrection is as follows: the disciples were troubled and agitated after the martyrdom of Christ. The Reality of, which signifies His teachings, His bounties, His perfections and His spiritual power, was hidden and concealed for two or three days after His martyrdom, and was not resplendent and manifest. No, rather it was lost, for the believers were few in number and were troubled and agitated. The Cause of Christ was like a lifeless body; and when after three days the disciples became assured and steadfast, and began to serve the Cause of Christ, and resolved to spread the divine teachings, put His councils into practice, and arising to serve Him, the Reality of Christ became resplendent and His bounty appeared; His religion found life; His teachings and His admonitions became evident and visible. In other words, the Cause of Christ was like a lifeless body until the life and the bounty of the Holy Spirit surrounded it.

Such is the meaning of the resurrection of Christ, and this was a true resurrection. But as the clergy have neither understood the meaning of the Gospels nor comprehended the symbols...

SAQ 104-5

The resurrection of the Divine Manifestations are not of the body. All Their states, Their conditions...and Their instructions have a spiritual and divine significance, and have no connection with material things

SAQ 103

The Day He revealeth Himself is Resurrection Day which shall last as long as He ordaineth.

The Bab 157-8

What is meant by the Day of resurrection is this, that from the time of the appearance of Him Who is the Tree of divine reality, at whatever period and under whatever name, until the moment of His disappearance, is the Day of Resurrection.

For example, from the inception of the mission of Jesus - may peace be upon Him - till the day of His ascension was the Resurrection of Moses. For during that period the Revelation of God shone forth through the appearance of that divine Reality, Who rewarded by His Word everyone who believed in Moses...

And from the inception of the Revelation of the Apostle of God - may the blessings of God be upon Him - till the day of His ascension was the resurrection of Jesus...

The Bab 106-7

How vast the number of people who will, on the Day of Resurrection, regard themselves to be in the right, while they shall be accounted as false through the Dispensation of



Providence, inasmuch as they will shut themselves out as by a veil from Him Whom God shall make Manifest and refuse to bow down in adoration before Him Who, as divinely ordained in the Book, is the object of their creation.

The Bab 143

Reflect, can a more precious, a mightier, and more glorious day than this be conceived, so that man should willingly forego its grace, and deprive himself of its bounties, which like unto vernal showers are raining down from the heaven of mercy upon all mankind?

Having thus conclusively demonstrated that no day is greater than this Day, and no revelation more glorious than this Revelation, and having set forth all these weighty and infallible proofs which no understanding mind can question, and no man of learning overlook, how can man possibly, through the idle contention of the people of doubt and fancy, deprive himself of such a bountiful grace?...

Strive, therefore, O my brother, to grasp the meaning of "Resurrection," and cleanse thine ears from the idle sayings of these rejected people. Shouldst thou step into the realm of detachment, thou wilt readily testify that no day is greater than this Day...One righteous work performed in this Day, equalleth all the virtuous acts which for myriads of centuries men have practised - nay, We ask forgiveness of God for such a comparison! For verily the reward which such a deed deserveth is immensely beyond and above the estimate of men.

KI 143-5

## **Return and Reincarnation (Not Transmigration of the soul)**

Strive therefore to comprehend the meaning of "return"...If thou sayest that Muhammad was the "return" of the Prophets of old...His Companions must likewise be the "return" of the bygone Companions...In like manner, endeavour to grasp the significance of "return," "revelation," and "resurrection," as witnessed in the days of the Manifestations of the divine Essence, that thou mayest behold with thine own eyes the "return" of the holy souls into sanctified bodies...Inasmuch as the return of the Prophets of God, as attested by verses and traditions, hath been conclusively demonstrated, the return of their chosen ones also is therefore definitely proven. This return is too manifest in itself to require any evidence or proof.

These same people...as soon as they drank the immortal draught of faith, from the cup of certitude...were so transformed that they would renounce for His sake their kindred, their substance, their lives, their beliefs, yea, all else save God! So overpowering was their yearning for God, so uplifting their transports of delight, that the world and all that is therein faded before their eyes into nothingness. Have not this people exemplified the mysteries of "rebirth" and "return"?

Therefore, those who in every subsequent Dispensation preceded the rest of mankind in embracing the Faith of God, who quaffed the clear waters of knowledge at the hand of the divine Beauty, and attained the loftiest summits of faith and certitude, these can be regarded, in name, in reality, in deeds, in words, and in rank, as the "return" of those who in a former Dispensation had achieved similar distinctions...These lights have proceeded from but one Source, and these fruits are the fruits of one Tree. Thou canst discern neither difference nor distinction among them. All this is by the grace of God.

Consider the rose: whether it blossometh in the East or in the West, it is none the less a rose. For what mattereth in this respect is not the outward shape and form of the rose, but rather the smell and fragrance which it doth impart.      KI 151 - 60