**Wrong Election**

There was a man who was a member of the church who kept running for a public office. He was once a Mayor, they said, but not anymore. Driving in the car with him one time, he continually pointed out business dealings he had done for many of the buildings in the city. He had more connections than anyone I have ever known. Eating at a restaurant, people would continually come up to him, about 5-6 groups of people - per meal! It was exhausting trying to have any kind of conversation with him. But, there is a more important office and a more important election coming up.

The Right Election to Run For:

“Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall” (2Peter 1:10 KJV). Peter remembers his calling (John 1:40-42), and he remembers being elected by Jesus (Luke 6:12-16). If you read that last passage from Luke, you will see the name of “Judas” also. He was called and elected, but he fell and fell hard. So much so that he never returned to the Lord. Peter fell too, but repented and recommitted his life to the teachings of Jesus. But Judas lost his calling and his election. Judas was never re-elected. Now the more important election is for eternal life. That election is worth everything.

The Right Calling:

The message of the gospel calls us to God (2Thess. 2:14),

“through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.” (2Peter 1:3).

The Right way to Run for this election:

“Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, … knowledge, self-control, … perseverance, …, godliness, … brotherly kindness,… love…Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing/election of you…” (2Peter 1:5-10). These are the qualities he wants in us. I don’t need to have connections all over town, I just need one connection. I don’t need to set up signs and banners, but to have Jesus living daily in me. To be completely connected, committed, to be transformed into Christ is what I need. Peter thinks we can do something about the upcoming election, to make sure we are called and chosen by Him. Jesus says, “For many are called, but few are chosen” (Matt. 22:14). Judas had been chosen, but he lost his election, his life, his soul (Mat. 27:3-10), and ultimately he lost Jesus. We cannot over emphasize Jesus too much. Who he is and what he taught must be central in my motivations and life. Jesus paid a high price, and it is a high calling (Col. 3:1-4). DP