

Drawing All Men

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And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me (John 12:32).

The truth of the supernatural and all-powerful drawing of God is one of the most neglected of all of the great truths of God's Word, and yet it is one of the most important. The words translated "draw" and "drew" in the Greek New Testament are *helkuō* and *helkō*. Each of these words has the basic meaning of "compel," "draw," "pull" and "tug." In most instances the force which does the drawing or compelling is sufficient to cause the object of the drawing to respond fully.

When the apostle James wishes to describe the manner in which rich men forcibly drag those who are indebted to them to prison, he uses the word *helkō*. In James 2:6 he writes,

*Do not rich men oppress you and **draw** you before the judgment seats?*

This "*drawing*," of course, was not with wooing or pleading! It was an act of force that absolutely took no care of the willingness of the person drawn! The poor man might resist ever so much, and he might cry and plead, but he was drawn irresistibly to the place of judgment!

It is with precisely this kind of forceful drawing about which the Lord Jesus is talking when He says,

*And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will **draw** all men unto me!*

Thank God, they are not just drawn *toward* Him, but “*unto*” Him – all the way! Because the Christ was “*lifted up*” on Calvary, dying on behalf of every man of Adam’s race, the promise is sure that He will inexorably **draw** all men unto Himself! The divine plan calls for the Church, the Body of Christ, to be drawn to Him in this age, all the living nations of the world to be drawn to Him in the next age, and the remainder of men, all who have ever lived and died upon this planet in the ages to come.

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