

DISGUISED ELITISM / *Romans 11:22*

To remember that God bases our salvation on faith and not on any merit in ourselves provides an effective antidote for elitism. But knowing some of the subtle ways that elitism can take root will keep us on guard.

When we say this . . .

“They’re not welcome in our church!”

“Everybody knows that at our church.”

“You’re not part of that denomination?”

“This is our family’s church.”

“We need to dress up for church and use only the best for God.”

“Our church is growing so fast that soon we’ll be the biggest and the best.”

“We have the best people.”

“We know the truth.”

We’re actually doing this . . .

Rejecting people because of race

Excluding people on the basis of knowledge

Rejecting people on the basis of denominational affiliation, with no reference to their personal relationship with Christ

Excluding people because they are not in the “family”

Excluding people on the basis of wealth.

Rejecting people on the basis of success

Excluding people because of their reputation

Rejecting people because of doctrinal pride.