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THE ELECT.

AND *was found in the number of the saints*, are words that come in the Church's Office for Confessors. No better epitaph than this could any man desire, if only it be not a lying epitaph: *inventus est in numero sanctorum*. They who when they die are found in the number of the saints are called *the elect*. They who die in the grace of God are the elect. It is not living, but dying in grace, that puts a man in the number of the saints securely and for ever. The blessed in heaven, and all who shall ever join their ranks, they are the elect. Of the elect our Lord says: "*My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me, and I give them life everlasting, and they shall not perish for ever, and no man shall snatch them out of my hand.*" (John, x. 27, 28).

In the next verse He calls them *that which my Father hath given me*, an expression which He often repeats (John vi. 37: xvii. 2, 11, 12, 24). The world was created, and goes on from generation to generation, for the sake of the elect.