

PREDESTINATION and FREE WILL – Pt. 1:

PREDESTINATION

This message is inspired by Johann whom I had a great conversation with about 6 years ago about predestination and a recent false teaching I was made aware.

Some believe that predestination means you don't have to do anything on your part and God will just bring it all about for you. That is a lie straight out of the pits of hell. I won't keep you in suspense, I believe in predestination and free will because that's what the Bible teaches. They work together.

So let's dive right in to one of the main passages on predestination:

Romans 8:28-31 - And we know that all things work together for good to them (for the good of them) that love God, to them who are the called (or are called) according to *His* purpose (for them). For whom He did foreknow (knew in advance), He also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of His Son (He chose them to become like His Son), that He (Christ) might be the firstborn among many brethren (brothers and sisters). Moreover whom He did predestinate, them He also called (to Himself): and whom He called, them He also justified: and whom He justified, them He also glorified. What shall we then say to these things? If God *be* for us, who *can be* against us?

[New Living Translation](#)

v. 30 - And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory.

Let's take a look at some of the Greek words in this passage so that we are clear on the meaning. It really isn't necessary for us to have to depend on the Hebrew or Greek as the translations that we have now will do just fine even with translational differences and even with the Mandela Effects. I first read the Open Bible and it only made me even hungrier for God.

After reviewing the translations available to us today I still feel the KJV is the best of what we have on the market in general. The newer translations are attacking the Trinity and the deity of Christ for sure. I am not so naïve anymore to believe that man has not tampered with God's Word, they have and I have brought that out many times in various teachings. That is why God put warnings in His Word about the judgment that would be meted out against those that do. I'm surprised they left that in our translations quite frankly.

Remember satan has been against God's Word from the very beginning. He wants to discredit it and make us believe that it's not true and God doesn't really mean what He says.

foreknow (1x) G4267 (5x)

[Greek Strong's]

4267. προγινώσκω **proginosko**, *prog-in-ocē'-ko*; from 4253 and 1097; to know beforehand, i.e. foresee: — foreknow (ordain), know (before).

[Webster]

Fore-know', *v. t. [imp.*

Foreknew ; *p. p.*

Foreknown ; *p. pr. & vb. n.*

Foreknowing.] To have previous knowledge of; to know beforehand.

Foreknow Strong's Greek 4267 proginosko from 4253 & 1907; to know beforehand, i.e. foresee: - foreknow (ordain), know (before).

To have previous knowledge of; to know beforehand.

This does not mean that we had a personal intimate relationship with God before we were created. There is a false teaching that says we were all souls with God in heaven before we were put into earthly or flesh bodies. Be careful and avoid these type of false teachings. They are meant to deceive you and get you messed up in your walk with God.

This does mean that God knew all about us, all about how our lives would go, what we would look like and what our personalities would be. He knew our desires and ambitions in life. He knew the events that would take place in our

lives, what time in history we would be born and what family we would be born into. He knew who we would marry if we would remain single, if we would have children and how many or none at all. He knew us in that way before He ever created us.

Isaiah 46:10 - Declaring the end from the beginning (I make known the end from the beginning / only I can tell you the future before it happens), and from ancient times *the things* that are not *yet* done, saying, My counsel shall stand (Everything I plan will come to pass), and I will do all My pleasure (I will do whatever I wish):

Remember it said to have previous knowledge of, to know beforehand. God knows everything; He knows how everything is going to go. That is why there is prophecy all through God's Word.

He knows the future and He holds the future.

He knows how it is all going to unfold. He has always known all things. He created everything and nothing is a surprise to Him. So before He created anyone, He knew those that would come to Christ and be saved. He knew the ones who would come to Him. HE KNEW WHO WOULD CHOOSE THE GIFT OF SALVATION.

predestinate (2x) G4309 (6x)

[Greek Strong's]

4309. προορίζω **proorizo**, *pro-or-id'-zo*; from 4253 and 3724; to limit in advance, i.e. (figuratively) predetermine: — determine before, ordain, predestinate.

Predestinate – Strong's greek 4309 from 4253 and 3724; to limit in advance, i.e. (figuratively) predetermine: - determine before, ordain, predestinate.

To decide a destiny beforehand. Think about the old queen and the royals. The one in line for the throne, their destiny is already decided even before birth. They will one day sit on the throne and rule. That is the destiny that is already decided for them but they can still walk away.

God already knew who would come and be saved because He has always known all things and all people, He predestined the ones who would come. Or He ordained the destiny of those who would come to Him of their own free will. He determined or drew up a plan for your life in advance of you even being born.

Jeremiah 1:5 – Before I formed thee in the belly (womb) I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee (before you were born I set you apart), *and* I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations (I appointed you as My prophet to the nations).

God knew before Jeremiah did that He would be a prophet to God. God knew before I did that He would call me to pastor and teach His Word. So before the world was created, God knew He was going to create me. He knew that I was eventually going to choose to come to Him through Christ and serve Him. Because He knew that all ahead of time, He said, well I am going to use her in this way for My glory. Now just like He has a plan for my life, He has a special plan for each one of your lives too. No one's plan is the same as anyone else's. Even though Scott serves alongside me in this ministry, he has different gifts and talents and serves in a different capacity. Even God's ministers serve in different ways. Pastor Erustus and Pastor Dalbeer's ministries are very different from the one that God has called me to and blessed me with. God's plan is the best one for your life and it is far better than any plan you could come up with on your own.

Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD (For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord) thoughts of peace (plans to prosper you), and not of evil (and not to harm you), to give you an expected end (to give you hope and a future).

This was spoken to the nation of Israel. God has plans for those that are His. We can take this passage to heart because if He had plans for them then we surely know in the same way He has plans for us also in Christ.

Let's look at some more passages about our being predestined:

Eph.1:4-6 – According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world (before the world was created), that we should be holy and without blame

before Him (in His sight) in love (God loved us): Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself (God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ), according to the good pleasure of His will (this is what He wanted to do and it gave Him great pleasure), To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved (in the One He loves – Christ).

Salvation is a gift (Eph.2:8) and it is all by God's grace to us. Those who would come and be saved were chosen before the foundation of the world in Christ. Because God's plan all along was to send Jesus to redeem mankind back to Himself.

1 Cor.2:7 – But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, *even* the hidden *wisdom* (His plan that was previously hidden), which God ordained (destined) before the world (began) unto our glory: Which none of the princes (rulers) of this world knew (understood it): for had they known *it*, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

Here we see God's plan of redemption was decided, planned or ordained before He created anything. He already knew how everything was going to play out. Can you imagine if the wicked ones of this world would have known God's plan and decided to mess it up. But God kept it back from them.

Deuteronomy 7:6 - For thou *art* an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto Himself (His own special treasure), above all people (out of all people) that *are* upon the face of the earth.

In redeeming man to Himself, God started with a nation which He also created through Abraham because there was no nation of Israel before that.

Israel was chosen by God as a nation to draw the world to Himself. They were to be His witness in this world but they failed miserably (Isaiah 26:18).

The Jews are now teaching the world witchcraft through Judaism, the kabbalah, the zohar, the Talmud and all of their Jewish teachings which are purposely against God and Jesus. And the Jews that are not hardened against Jesus, well they are Christians and have the same covenant we do, Who is Jesus Christ. There are not two deals on the table, one for the Jews and one for everyone else, Jesus is the only way to the Father.

CLOSING

Exodus 19:5 - Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed (if you will obey Me fully), and keep My covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me (My own special treasure) above all people (of all the people): for all the earth *is* Mine:

Even though God chose them to start with, it was always conditional. The condition to be a special treasure to the Lord was to obey Him. In 1 Peter 2:9 Peter quotes the Old Testament because we are now God's special treasure and chosen people in Christ.

2 Thessalonians 2:13 - But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren (brothers and sisters) beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation (God chose you to be among the first to experience salvation) through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

This beginning is in the sense that salvation is now going out to the world and they were among the very first to hear and receive it. Commencement or the act of doing that which begins anything. These were the early churches and the gospel was being spread, they were the beginning of the church under the new covenant. The Holy Spirit led Paul and the apostles to where He wanted them to minister. God chose Thessalonica to be among the first cities to receive the good news.

Eph.1:11-12 – In whom (In Christ) also we have obtained an inheritance (from God), being predestinated (chosen in advance) according to the purpose of Him (according to God's plan) Who worketh all things after the counsel (plan) of His own will: That we should be to the praise of His glory (That we would bring praise and glory to God), who first trusted in Christ (who were the first to trust in Christ).

God chose us and made a plan for us in Christ before we were ever born. No one told Him how to redeem mankind, that was His own will and plan and no one told Him what plan to have for my life or for your life, but God Himself drew up and decided His own plan of His own will for our lives.

PRAYER