

Soteriology: Studies Concerning Salvation

Lesson 5. The Preparation for Salvation

4/07/2019

“Salvation is of the Lord”

 Romans 8:29-30

*“Whom He foreknew, ⇒ He also predestinated;
and whom He predestinated, ⇒ these He also called;
and whom He called, ⇒ these he also justified;
and whom He justified, ⇒ these He also glorified.”*

Foreknowledge

- ☑ What does Romans 8:29 say is foreknown by God? (He foreknows persons.)
(Note: Nowhere in the Bible are we told that God foreknows the faith of individuals.)
 - The persons who end up glorified (all believers in Jesus Christ) are first foreknown and predestined by God.
Note that all those who are foreknown are also glorified.

- ❖ The verb occurs 5 times in the New Testament
Classical usage – Acts 26:5; 2 Peter 3:17
Special usage – Persons are foreknown. Romans 8:29; Romans 11:2; 1 Peter 1:20
- ❖ The noun occurs 2 times in the New Testament:
Acts 2:23 *“this Man, delivered up by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to the cross.”*
Note: The construction in the Greek text indicates that “the predetermined plan” and “foreknowledge” are closely linked. In this passage foreknowledge is listed after God’s predetermined plan!

1 Peter 1:1-2 *“Who are chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father,”*
 - What phrase identifies the believers addressed in :1?
(Hint: This word is sometimes translated “the elect.”)
 - How does :2 describe the relationship of these chosen believers to the trinity?
Father
Holy Spirit
Jesus Christ
- **Foreknowledge is used in Scripture to indicate that with regard to salvation, God had a predetermined plan for those whom He would predestine to be called, justified, and glorified.**

Predestination

Romans 8:29-30

*“Whom He foreknew, ⇒ He also predestinated;
and whom He predestinated, ⇒ these He also called;*

I. Word usage

The Greek word occurs six times in the New Testament.

Acts 4:28; Romans 8:29, 30; I Corinthians 2:7; Ephesians 1:5, 11

II. Definition


A. Definition from Arndt and Gingrich Greek Lexicon...


“to decide beforehand;” “to predestine someone”


B. “Predestination is more of persons than their actions, and not merely of persons as such but their destiny.” (Lewis Sperry Chafer, Systematic Theology, Vol. 7, p. 255)

C. “Predestination is the sovereign act of God whereby He determined beforehand what He would do with those whom He elected to salvation.” (Floyd H. Barackman, Practical Christian Theology, p. 248)

III. Scripture

 Ephesians 1:5 “He predestined us **to adoption as sons** through Jesus Christ to Himself.”

 Ephesians 1:11 “Also we **have obtained an inheritance**, having been predestined according to His purpose.”

 Romans 8:29 “For whom He foreknew, He also predestined **to become conformed to the image of His Son.**”

IV. Predestination follows foreknowledge and precedes election and calling.

Romans 8:29 “For whom He foreknew, He also predestined”

Romans 8:30 “And whom He predestined, these He also called”

Ephesians 1:4, 5 “He chose us in Him... having predestined us”

- **Predestination has to do with the destiny of believers; a destiny that was marked out in eternity past.**

Called by God

Romans 8:29-30


*“Whom He foreknew,
and whom He predestinated,
and whom He called,*

*⇒ He also predestinated;
⇒ these He also called;
⇒ these he also justified;*

➤ **The act of God whereby a sinner is effectively called to salvation. This call is extended only to certain individuals, all of whom will believe.**

I. The fact of His calling.


A. Believers are identified as the called. (cf. “chosen”)

 I Corinthians 1:23, 24 *“but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block, and to gentiles foolishness, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ the power and wisdom of God.”*

 Romans 8:28 *“to those who are called according to His purpose”*

 Jude 1 *“to those who are called”*


B. We are called by His grace (Galatians 1:6, 15)

 II Timothy 1:9 *“who has saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity.”*


II. The benefits of His calling.


- A. called to eternal life (I Timothy 6:12; I Peter 5:10)
- B. called out of darkness into His marvelous light (I Peter 2:9)
- C. called into fellowship with His Son (I Corinthians 1:9)
- D. called into His kingdom and glory (I Thessalonians 2:12)
- E. called to peace (Colossians 3:15)
- F. called to freedom (Galatians 5:13)
- G. called that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ (II Thessalonians 2:14)
- H. called to be glorified (Romans 8:30; 9:23, 24)


III. The certainty of His calling.


 Romans 8:29, 30; Also II Peter 1:3, 4

IV. My response to His calling (Motivation for daily Christian living)

 Ephesians 4:1 *“Walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called.”*

 I Thessalonians 4:7 *“for God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification.”*

 I Peter 1:15 *“Like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior.”*

 Philippians 3:14 *“I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”*