

September 8, 2019

How God Saves

Romans 8:28-30

- This morning: the theological grounds for God sending the Spirit to choose us as the bride of his Son.

Romans 8:28-30

- By the time we get to this passage, the Apostle Paul has explained that all humanity is under sin (Rom. 1:18 – 3:20) and how the Gospel is the “power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes” (Rom. 1:16).

***Romans 8:28** ...and [because of everything that we have learned about the power of God to save us] we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. 29 For those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that He might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30 And those [from v. 29] whom He predestined He also called, and those whom He called He also justified, and those whom He justified He also glorified*

Foreknew

- *Proginosko* = pro (prior) + ginosko = personal knowledge.

***John 10:14** I am the good shepherd. I know [ginosko] my own and my own know [ginosko] Me...*

John 17:3 *And this is eternal life, that they know [ginosko] you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent...*

Matt 1:25 *...[Joseph] knew [ginosko] her not until she had given birth to a son...*

- These passages describe intimate knowledge that is the result of personal experience.
- *Ginosko* is not just head or academic knowledge. The Greek word for studying the facts is *eido*. *Proginosko* = to know before.

1 Peter 1:20 *...[Christ] was foreknown [proginosko] before the foundation of the world...*

- Christ was foreknown by the Father.

John 10:15 *...the Father knows [ginosko] Me and I know [ginosko] the Father...*

- Before the creation of time and eternity, the Father and the Son knew one Another in the most intimate way.

John 10:38 *...the Father is in Me and I am in the Father...*

- In saving us, the Spirit was uniting the pre-created family of God, the pre-created bride of Christ.

1 Peter 1:1-2 *To those who reside as aliens...who are chosen 2 according to the foreknowledge [prognosis] of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ...*

- This means that God's foreknowledge of us is not just knowledge of what we would do but of Whose we were in Christ before the foundation of the world (Eph. 1:4).

- In the O.T., the Hebrew word that is translated by *ginosko* is *yada*.

Gen. 4:1 Adam [*yada*] knew his wife and she conceived and bore Cain...

- Compare Gen. 4:1 to Matt 1:24-25.

Matt 1:24-25. ...[Joseph] he took his wife, 25 but knew [*ginosko*] her not until she had given birth to a Son...

- This shows that God's foreknowledge speaks of His loving intimate relational knowledge of us in Christ.

Deut 7:6-8 ...[YHWH] your God has chosen you to be a people for His treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth... 8 because [YHWH] loves you...

Jer 31:3 ...I [YHWH] have loved you with an everlasting love...

- It was YHWH's everlasting love that was the basis of His creating and calling Jeremiah to be His prophet.

Jer. 1:5 Before I formed you in the womb I knew [*yada*] you, before you were born I set you apart...

- Yada is the term that expresses God's pre-creational intimate love for His people.
1 John 4:10 ...this is love, not that we have loved God but that He [1st-v.19] loved us...
- Before the creation of the world, God loved us relationally in Christ.