

September 15, 2019

Predestined & Called

Romans 8:28-30

- Five theological reasons...

Romans 8:28-29 ...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

- He begins by telling them that the reason they love God is His loving foreknowledge of them.

1 John 4:19 We love [God] because He first [Eph. 1:4] loved us...

Predestined

- The term predestine [proorizo] has to do with the activity of directing a person to a particular goal.
- In Eph. 1, Paul tells us that predestination is the activity of God's loving foreknowledge that directs us by the Spirit to Christ for our salvation.

Ephesians 1:5 ...in love [God] predestined us for adoption through Jesus Christ according to the purposes of his will

- Therefore, predestination is the Divinely created path that guarantees that we will hear and believe the Gospel unto salvation.

Eph 1:11 In [Christ] we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined...

Called

- We see that we are predestined to be called.
- This means that God's calling us was not a capricious act but the result of His deliberate knowing [ginosko] us and, therefore, predestining us to be called to Himself.
- The word *call* is from the Greek *kaleo* and refers to God's personal summons of us to come to Him.

Gen. 3:9 And YHWH called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?"

- YHWH was calling them back to fellowship with Himself which would be achieved by the ...Seed of the Woman... [3:15] through the shedding of His blood [3:21].
- And God's call comes to us through the Word of the Gospel:

John 6:37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and whoever comes to Me I will never cast out...

Romans 10:13 *Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

- This person calls on the Lord because he has been called by God to come to Jesus.
- His call is his faith response to God's call (1 John 4:19).

Romans 10:14-17 *How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? 15 How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!" 16 However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" 17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ...*

- The Good News was publicly announced to all the world.

Rom 1:19-20 *For what can be [personally] known [ginosko] about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. 20 For His invisible attributes, namely, His eternal power and Divine Nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse*

- This means that all whom God calls will hear and receive His call.

John 10:14-16 *I am the good shepherd. I know [ginosko] My own and My own know [ginosko] Me, 15 just as the Father knows [ginosko] Me and I know [ginosko] the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. 16 And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to My voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd...27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know [ginosko] them, and they follow Me..*

- Why doesn't everyone respond with faith to the call of God that goes out into all the world?

John 10:26 *...you do not believe because you are not part of My [foreknown] flock...*

- How does God call His own? God call His own through the internal ministry of the Spirit as described in Ez. 36:26-27.
- Therefore, God's call, although given publicly, is heard internally only by those whom He has predestined to hear because they are the foreknown, the sheep of Jesus' pasture.