

“The Doctrines of Grace: Predestination”

Foreknowledge, Predestination, and Election: What Do These Words Mean and Where are They Found in the Bible?

Is it true that a person must “behold the Son and believe” to be saved? (cf. John 6:40)

What must happen for any person to come to Christ? (John 6:44)

I. What Do These Words Mean?

A) Foreknowledge

Foreknowledge DOES NOT MEAN (nor imply): God looked down the corridors of time and saw who would believe in Him, and as such He chose them to be His elect.

Reason #1: The Word Foreknowledge Cannot Hold Such a Definition (see Isaiah 46:8-11)

Reason #2: If You Define Foreknowledge Simply as “God Looking into the Future” – Then that Definition Contradicts Other Truths about God’s Salvation Revealed in Scripture

Reason #3: If You Define Foreknowledge Simply as “God Looking into the Future” – You Promote a Type of Works-Based-Gospel

Reason #4: Foreknowledge is Not Mentioned in Other Passages where Predestination, Election, and God’s Choice are Discussed

A Correct Definition of Foreknowledge: God’s knowledge of the future based upon His Relationship to it because of His sovereign Control over it.

Foreknowledge = _____

B) Predestination

The Greek aorist tense is similar to the past tense in English. All the verbs pertaining to salvation in Romans 8:29-30 are in the aorist tense. Explain why that is significant:

The Greek word for “predestine” is _____

➤ “pro” - _____

➤ “horizo” - _____

➤ Therefore: “To determine beforehand, to appoint beforehand, to decide beforehand”

So According to Romans 8:29, 30 – what did God do “beforehand”?

➤ V. 29 - _____

➤ V. 30 - _____

According to Ephesians 1:5 – how were people (would-be believers) made into sons?

God’s selection beforehand does NOT negate the need for man to express faith – but it ensures that the person selected by God will come to faith!(cf. John 1:12-13)

Why does God choose people according to Ephesians 1:5-6, 11-12?

Explain the salvation process from man’s perspective . . . and then from God’s perspective:

God Always Does that which Brings Glory to _____. (cf. Rom. 11:33-36)

Explain why God must bring glory to Himself:

C) Election / Choice