

Foreknowledge

Written by Ben Winslett

Tuesday, 18 May 2010 16:19 - Last Updated Tuesday, 18 May 2010 17:02

Elect, according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, multiplied. 1 Peter 1:2.

In modern Christianity, we find many different opinions concerning predestination and election. One particular school of thought claims God's election of a people before the foundation of the world (Eph 1:4) depended on some action that person will or will not take in his life. According to this theory (more correctly called a heresy), the Lord looked down through time, saw who would "accept him" and predestinated them to eternal life (Please note, the phrase "accept the Lord" isn't even found in scripture). This is what this school of thought calls "foreknowledge." The term foreknowledge is found in the Bible. The apostle Peter said in his first epistle, that we are elect according to foreknowledge. So that brings up the question, "what is foreknowledge?"

Here is a starting point to examine this belief mentioned above. If God were to have looked on man before time began, to see if any would "accept him," what would He see? Let us go to the Bible, more specifically Psalms ch 53, which reads as follows:

2 God looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, that did seek God.

3. Every one of them is gone back: they are altogether become filthy; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

If God were to look through time, to predestinate people according to their seeking after Him and His ways, it would have taken no time at all to compile the list, for it would be blank. The

Foreknowledge

Written by Ben Winslett

Tuesday, 18 May 2010 16:19 - Last Updated Tuesday, 18 May 2010 17:02

apostle Paul (as well as the psalmist) teaches us that there is NONE that doeth good (Romans ch3). Since there are none that seek God naturally, and we read above that the Lord knows this, then foreknowledge cannot be God's predestination of man, according to man's works. (Thank the LORD!)

To better understand what exactly foreknowledge is, we must find this term elsewhere in the Bible. Paul in Romans ch 8, speaks of a people God foreknew. More specifically, Paul states that "whom He (God) did foreknow, He also did predestinate." Notice the Bible says "whom" God foreknew, not "what" God foreknew. The Bible also does not say "those who accepted the Lord He did foreknow." It simply says "Whom he foreknew." What is this? This is the election of grace! Ephesians 1:4 says God chose a people before the foundation of the world. This is when he knew you! When He chose you! Isn't it a simple concept?

Brethren, I think God for His foreknowledge. He foreknew us, he chose us by name purely by grace, not of our works. He foreknew our sinful ways before we were born, and even sought fit to have His only Son pay the price for us, His chosen people. Brethren, what wondrous love is this?

May the Lord continue His blessings.

Ben Winslett