

# CHOSEN BY GOD

## 1 Peter 1:1-2

### Introduction

***Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.***

"everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made" (Isaiah 43:7).

"To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen" (1 Timothy 1:17).

All creation must give God glory. We are called, in all things, at all times, to give God glory (1 Cor. 10:31).

The angel who flies in the heavens proclaiming a single message: "Fear God and give Him glory ... and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water" (Revelation 14:7).

"Hear and give ear; be not proud, for the Lord has spoken. Give glory to the Lord your God before he brings darkness, before your feet stumble on the twilight mountains, and while you look for light he turns it into gloom and makes it deep darkness" (Jeremiah 13:15-16).

**Even in suffering and in death we are called to glorify God.**

"Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, 'Follow me'" (John 21:18-19).

"If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.... Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name" (1 Peter 4:14, 16).

**The Doctrine of Election is one of the most controversial, rejected, hated doctrines among Christians.**

*...that they are the chosen of God.*

***We are here to glorify God in how we live, and we evangelize the world with what we believe.***

"But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Thessalonians 2:13-15).

**The Danger of Becoming *Ingrown*.**

"Seed kept in a basket isn't in the right place. But sown over the field, it will be waving wheat in a month or two" (Maclaren).

"We must resist the temptation to become ingrown so that we become a society of people talking to ourselves rather than evangelizing a lost world" (MacArthur).

Peter wants the scattered, the beleaguered, alien Christians to know their God.

### **Understanding and Embracing Predestination**

Perhaps no other doctrine is so despised, fought over, debated, and argued about by Christians as *predestination*.

#### **R.C. Sproul**

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ...even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will” (Ephesians 1:3-5).

“predestined” Gk *proorizo*; ‘to determine or decree beforehand.’

“The action by which God is held to have immutably determined all events by an eternal decree or purpose. The action of God in foreordering certain of mankind through grace to salvation or eternal life. The action of God in foreordaining whatever comes to pass” (Oxford Universal Dict.; 1955).

“But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory” (1 Corinthians 2:7).

“they lifted their voices together to God and said, ‘Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them.... Truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place” (Acts 4:24, 27-28).

“this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men” (Acts 2:23).

God unilaterally chooses all who will be saved apart from any outside influence whether by persons or circumstances.

“But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God” (John 1:12-13)

#### **Romans 9:10-23**

“In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory” (Ephesians 1:11-13).

#### **William Childs Robinson**

“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. 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. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified” (Romans 8:28-30).

**“according to the foreknowledge of God the Father” (v2)**

“The objects of predestination are those whom He *foreknew*. Predestination does not involve a predetermined plan only but also includes the individuals for whom the plan is devised.... Here it is presented not as a capricious, arbitrary or whimsical exercise of raw will or unreasoned impulse, but as the expression of a deliberate and wise plan which purposes to redeem those undeserving sinners whom God freely favors as the objects of His mercy” (Zodhiates).

“foreknowledge” is based up a predetermined relationship.

It is foreknowledge, not *foresight*.

Gk *proginosko*; ‘to know beforehand.’

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you” God said to Jeremiah (1:5).

“You only have I known of all the families of the earth” (Amos 3:2).

“Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. He made my mouth like a sharp sword” (Isaiah 49:1-2).

“I never knew you...” (Matthew 7:23).

“I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father” (John 10:14).

This is a term of deep intimacy of persons. “For whom he foreknew, he also predestined...” (Romans 8:29).

“He was foreknown before the foundation of the world” (1 Peter 1:20).

Predestination magnifies the sheer grace and goodness of God. There is no place here for human boasting.