

Discipleship Class 14

Wednesday the 13th of August 2008

Bethesda Bible Church



Topic: Predestination

Facilitator: Pastor Thivha Lidzhade

Time 18h30

Predestination: (a Christian belief that everything has been decided and planned in advance by God. Oxford Dictionary)

(Ephesians 1:4 KJVR) According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

(Romans 8:29-30 KJVR) For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Questions dealt with:-

- Does it mean you were chosen before you were born to be a sinner or a Christian? So, why do we preach then?
- Kids who are aborted, were they predestined to die in that way?
- What about Judas Iscariot? Was he predestined to betray the Son of God?
- If God predestined you to be what you are, why should he judge you?

(Romans 9:11-24 KJVR) *(For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated. What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid. For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that showeth mercy. For the Scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might show my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth. Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will? Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honor, and another unto dishonor? What if God, willing to show his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory, Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?*

(Hebrews 12:16-17 KJVR) *Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.*

(Psalms 139:15-16 KJVR) *My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.*

(Romans 8:29-30 AMP) For those whom He foreknew [of whom He was aware and loved beforehand], He also destined from the beginning [foreordaining them] to be molded into the image of His Son [and share inwardly His likeness], that He might become the firstborn among many brethren. And those whom He thus foreordained, He also called; and those whom He called, He also justified (acquitted, made righteous, putting them into right standing with Himself). And those whom He justified, He also glorified [raising them to a heavenly dignity and condition or state of being].

Foreknowledge of God seems to be the determining factor in predestination. Those He foreknew, He predestinated... since God is omniscience i.e He knows everything, He knew that one day I will here the His Word and repent, so He before hand determined that I will be conformed to the image of His son.

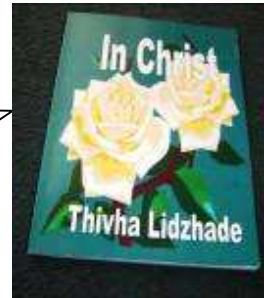
Look at this....

Rom 8:29 - For whom he did foreknow,.... The foreknowledge of God here, does not intend his prescience of all things future; by which he foreknows and foretells things to come, and which distinguishes him from all other gods; and is so called, not with respect to himself, with whom all things are present, but with respect to us, and which is eternal, universal, certain, and infallible; for in this sense he foreknows all men, and if this was the meaning here, then all men would be predestinated, conformed to the image of Christ, called by grace, justified and glorified; whereas they are a special people, whom God has foreknown: nor is this foreknowledge to be understood of any provision or foresight of the good works, holiness, faith, and perseverance of men therein, upon which God predestinates them to happiness; since this would make something out of God, and not his good pleasure, the cause of predestination; which was done before, and without any consideration of good or evil, and is entirely owing to the free grace of God, and is the ground and foundation of good works, faith, holiness, and perseverance in them: but this regards the everlasting love of God to his own people, his delight in them, and approbation of them; in this sense he knew them, he foreknew them from everlasting, affectionately loved them, and took infinite delight and pleasure in them; and this is the foundation of their predestination and election, of their conformity to Christ, of their calling, justification, and glorification: for these

he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son; having perfect, distinct, special knowledge of them, joined with love to them, he predetermined, or fore-appointed them in his eternal mind, in his everlasting and unchangeable purposes and decrees to this end, conformity to the image of Christ. (John Gill's Exposition Of The Entire Bible)

To be continued.....

Only



Recommended reading:

Discipleship Notes 13 on how tithing was given in the past

Read the book, **In Christ** by **Thivha Lidzhade**

Available from **Bethesda Bookshop**

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If you have not accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior and you would like to accept Him, pray this short prayer:

Heavenly Father, I heard Your Word.

I acknowledge that I am a sinner.

I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

I believe that He died for my sins.

I believe that He was made a curse so I could be the righteousness of God.

I confess with my mouth that He is Lord of my life.

Thank you Lord for making me Your child.

In Jesus' name. Amen!

If you prayed this prayer, YOU ARE NOW A CHILD OF GOD!!!

Contact us soon or join a word-based church near you!!!!