



GRACE GOSPEL MINISTRY

Liberating / Grace

FOREORDINATION (PREDESTINATION)

The terms foreordination and predestination are sometimes used interchangeably.

Foreordination denotes God's sovereign plan, whereby He decides all that is to happen in the entire universe. Predestination is a part of foreordination; it defines the specifics of God's eternal plan, i.e., God's election, call (summons), justification, and glorification. In Ephesians 1:5, the Greek verb "pro·oree·sas", rendered "foreordained" is formed from a combination of the Greek preposition "pro" meaning "before" prefixed to the word "o·ree·zo", meaning boundary or limits or restrictions. Hence, its etymological meaning conveys the idea of to limit, restrict and mark out beforehand to "in prior time design and determine" or to "ordain beforehand", thus to specifically predestinate or predetermine.

In following the Greek word order in the usage of this word "pro●oree●sas", it is always in the aorist tense. In interpreting this grammatical principle, its application always points to a given point or period, prior to the creating of the world when God both elected or chose and foreordained individuals to be holy (set apart) and blameless (justified) before Him and as such, to occupy a sonship position. This cuts against the grain of what many have been taught and we only ask that you follow along with the study and allow the Holy Spirit to guide your thinking.

In light of all of the facts of eternity, we should keep in mind that God is omniscient and all knowing, thus nothing in this world happens by chance. God is ultimately in back of everything. He decides and causes all things to happen. He is not sitting on the sideline wondering and perhaps contemplating in trepidation, what is going to happen. He has foreordained everything “After the counsel of His will” (Ephesians 1:11), everything is preplanned and pre-purposed; even the negative and sinful acts against Him. In all things, God who is all wisdom, always works out what He deems best and good and that, which pleases Him, is always the highest possible intelligent decision. So these eternal facts, plus God’s perfect judgment, enabled Him to sovereignly according to his purpose for the ages, foreordain us, His elect to the praise of His grace and glory (Ephesians 1:6,12). See: “Who are God’s Elect”.