



UPLOOK SUMMER BIBLE PROGRAM

WORD#2: PREDESTINATION

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Fill in these blanks as you watch the teaching video.

1. Predestination is an _____, based on His _____, by which He makes the goal of _____ certain for the believer.

2. God's intention is for us to actually _____ like Jesus, _____ like Jesus, _____ like Jesus.

3. God's purpose is not to _____ that certain people will be in Heaven, but to guarantee that those who believe in the Lord Jesus will be _____ like Christ.

4. Adoption refers to '_____'. God is designing us to help Him run the Family Business—the Universe! So He is _____ now for this objective.

5. God predetermined the _____...and God is right on schedule. _____ is just as much a work of God as _____. And God is going to _____.

DIGGING DEEPER

Predestination, pro-ofizō (from *pró*, "before" and *horizō*, "establish boundaries, limits"); properly, pre-horizon, pre-determine limits (boundaries).

NOTE THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS:

Merriam Webster: the belief that everything that will happen has already been decided by God or fate and cannot be changed. The doctrine that God in consequence of His foreknowledge of all events infallibly guides those who are destined for salvation.

Collins English: a. the act of God foreordaining every event from eternity; b. the doctrine or belief, esp. associated with Calvin, that the final salvation of some of mankind is foreordained from eternity by God.

Q: Are these explaining the actual Bible words or describing what some men assume they mean?

Let's test these by Scripture. Carefully examine the objective in each of these statements:

Acts 4:28 (determined before):

Rom 8:29-30:

1 Cor 2:7 (ordained before):

Eph 1:11

What other doctrine is predicated on God's predestination? See Ephesians 1:5.



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SOME HELPFUL THOUGHTS

What must be borne in mind is the fact that predestination is not God's predetermining from past ages who should and who should not be saved. Scripture does not teach this view. What it does teach is that this doctrine of predestination concerns the future of believers. — Herbert Lockyer

PREDESTINATION: "An act of God based on His foreknowledge (Rom 8:28-30) by which He makes the goal of adoption certain for the believer" (see Eph 1:5). This necessitated the pre-planned death of Christ (Acts 4:23-31). It involves the utilizing of hidden wisdom (i.e., what man calls foolishness and weakness) to accomplish it (1 Cor 1:20-2:16). It leads to two great blessings: to be like the Son Himself (Rom 8:29); and to be sons in all the privileges and responsibilities of such a position (Eph 1:5). God's predetermination guarantees that present circumstances not only will not interfere with this process, but will actually work in us conformity to Christ (Rom 8:28-30) and guarantees our inheritance in the future as well (Eph 1:11).

"...Predestination, according to the precise meaning of the word has to do with: something beforehand and something at the farthest end or termination. Predestination has nothing to do with anything in between." (Telford, p. 33)

"Keep in mind the definition of the word Predestination is a divine act of God, whereby God makes that goal, which is Adoption, certain for the believer. The purpose of God in Predestination then is Adoption, and when we are Adopted we shall be Son-placed. When we are Son-placed we shall be like Him, we shall then be in the image of His Son." (Telford, p.35)

"Predestination has nothing to do with going to hell, or going to Heaven as individuals. Predestination has nothing whatsoever to do with unconverted people. It only affects believers. The words "us" and "we" in Ephesians refer to the Church which is His Body." (Telford, p. 41)

"It is blasphemous to dare say that God predestinates individuals to hell. Predestination is a divine act of God whereby God makes the goal, which is Adoption, certain for the believer. Will I be 'Son-placed'? Yes, if I am a member of the Body of Jesus Christ. If I, as a believer, and a member of the Body of Christ do not arrive there, at the place of Adoption, God would be a liar. Do you see that Predestination makes Adoption certain? Thank God for His great truth concerning the Church which is His Body." (Telford, p. 42)

"In each case, predestination is to do with future blessings which God purposes for the saints." (Parkinson, p. 38)

"A physical change will complete our intended transformation with a new body in the image of Christ's resurrection body. This is predestination. Therefore, predestination provides for the changing of our corruptible bodies to a form fashioned like the resurrection body of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Wilkinson, p. 52)

"As I live," says the Lord God, "I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked..." (Ezekiel 33:11)



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SOME MORE HELPFUL THOUGHTS

“Additionally, we should note that there is nothing in the context which would say anything about any unconditional decree in eternity past as to who will be saved and who will be consigned to hell.” (*Olson, p. 335*)

“Since He is the ‘choice One,’ it follows that the only possible choice is ‘in Him,’ and that there is no choiceness apart from Him. He did not write that we are appointed **to be** in Him, but that we are ‘appointed in Him.’ Our appointment or being made choice is in Christ. Thus it is only those individuals who are connected to Him by faith who are the appointed or choice ones.” (*Olsen, p. 337*)

“The object of predestination is glory.” (*Fisk p. 75*)

“Mark then, with care, that our conformity to Christ is the sacred object of predestination...” (*Spurgeon, p. 372*)

“Scripture teaches that God has predestinated those who have believed (and who will believe) to be conformed to the image of His Son. In other words, it is the plan of God, determined beforehand, that every believer is going to be made like unto the Lord Jesus Christ...God has determined that those who are saved are going to be like His Son.” (*Cambron, p. 200-201*)

“People have had it drilled into them that away in the past God foreordained that certain people should be lost and certain others should be saved. I would like to get that out of your minds this morning. Just let me begin by saying that that

“Turn to your Bible and read for yourself in the only two chapters in which this word ‘predestinate’ or ‘predestinated’ is found. The first is Romans 8:29-30. The other chapter is Ephesians 1:5, 11. You will note that there is no reference in these four verses to either heaven or hell, but to Christlikeness eventually. Nowhere are we told in Scripture that God predestinated one man to be saved and another to be lost.” (*Ironsides, p. 93-94*)

“Predestination is the exercise of divine sovereignty in the accomplishment of God’s ultimate purpose... What must be borne in mind is the fact that predestination is not God’s predetermining from past ages who should and who should not be saved. Scripture does not teach this view. What it does teach is that this doctrine of predestination concerns the future of believers. Predestination is the divine determining of the glorious consummation of all who through faith and surrender become the Lord’s.” (*Lockyer, p. 153*)



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SOME MORE HELPFUL QUOTES

isn't in the Bible...God's predestination is not salvation. God's predestination is that those who receive the Lord shall be like the Lord Jesus. That is predestination, and nothing else is." (Drew, 1942)

"God has ordained from the foundation of the world that if you will trust His Son, He will make you like His Son. That is what we have here... those whom God predestinated to be like Christ, He called out not before He saved them, but when He saved them, He called them out to be like Him..." (Drew, 1942)

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