

Chosen Though He Knows Us

February 7, 2019

Ephesians 1:1 ESV

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God...

- *There is no greater peace and rest than knowing you are exactly where God wants you, doing exactly what God wants you to do. You will need this conviction through the trials!*

Ephesians 1:1 ESV

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints (*hagios - saint, holy one, morally blameless, pure, consecrated*) who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:

- *Paul's definition of the Church and its members is clear:*
 - *consecrated, holy, morally blameless*
 - *faithful*

Ephesians 1:2-3 ESV

2 **Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**

3 **Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,**

Romans 8:32 ESV

32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

- *God does not give us "all things" according to our selfish, worldly or arrogant desires.*

2 Peter 1:3 ESV

3 His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life (zoe) and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence,

- *God has blessed us and given to us, in Jesus Christ, all things PERTAINING to LIFE and GODLINESS.*
- *BY relationship, THROUGH knowing Him, "all things" are communicated and transferred to us.*
- *Wisdom in making decisions, strength to resist any temptation, healing for sickness, peace for troubled minds, faith for our fears, strength for our weaknesses, chastening for our discipline - all freely given and available in Jesus Christ.*

Ephesians 1:4 ESV

4 **even as he chose (*eklegomai - to pick out, choose, select*) us in him before the foundation of the world...**

Psalm 139:13-16 ESV

13 For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.

14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

15 My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

16 Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

- God's love for you is so limitless, it's not bound by time or space.
- God's love for you is so intimate, He knows things about you that you don't even know.
- God's love for you is so comprehensive, there is nothing about you He doesn't know.
- God's love for you is so merciful, He loves you even in your sin and failure.
- God's love for you is so inexhaustible, it will endure for all eternity, never waning, never diminishing.

Ephesians 1:4 ESV

4 ...that we should be holy and blameless before him. [In love]

2 Corinthians 5:21 ESV

21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Isaiah 53:11 ESV

11 ...by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

Romans 3:21-22 ESV

21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it--

22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

Ephesians 1:5 ESV

5 [In love] **he predestined** (*proorizō - predestinate, decide beforehand, predetermine, appoint beforehand, appoint beforehand*) us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,

1 Peter 1:1-2 ESV

1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who are elect (*eklektos - picked out, chosen, select*) exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,

2 according to the foreknowledge (*prognōsis - foreknowledge, forethought, prearrangement*) of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

- **God's sovereignty is a perfect blend of His foreknowledge and His predestination.**
- **He predestines because He foreknows. He foreknows because He predestines. Both are simultaneously true in God's sovereignty.**
- **Does foreknowledge come before predestination, or does predestination come before foreknowledge? Does God foreknow because He predestined, or does He predestine based upon His foreknowledge?**

Acts 2:23 ESV

23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite (*horizō - determine, ordain, declare, limit*) plan and foreknowledge (*prognōsis*) of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

- **God had a definite plan for redemption, how it would be accomplished.**
- **He also knew how He could have His plan executed by the wickedness of man.**
- **God chose and predestined you because He knew you would have the heart to choose Him.**
- **But how much of your choice was your free-will and how much of your choice for Him was His predetermination?**

Matthew 16:25 ESV

25 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

John 6:44 ESV

44 No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws (helkō - draw by inward power, lead, impel, drag) him. And I will raise him up on the last day.

Romans 8:28-30 ESV

28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

29 For those whom he foreknew (proginōskō - know before, foresee, to have knowledge before hand, foreordain) he also predestined (proorizō - predestinate, decide beforehand, predetermine, appoint beforehand, appoint beforehand) to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Ephesians 1:6 ESV

6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.