

Questions Posed for Study

**Question: If we have been predestined, then where does free-will stand?"**

**Intro:** There are two basic ways of using the Bible to establish one's \_\_\_\_\_, and or to settle \_\_\_\_\_ we face in our daily lives.

1. Make the Bible fit our \_\_\_\_\_ convictions and to deal with the issues of life we are facing. To do this, and we can see the era in it, yet we do it consciously or subconsciously; we come to the Word of God looking for the Bible to \_\_\_\_\_ our thoughts or positions. We have determined our position and intend to use the Bible to support that position, which most of the time, such an action results in our twisting the Word of God. We then take Scripture out of \_\_\_\_\_, making it a pretext or the Bible supporting a position that it does not support.
  
2. This second method is using the Bible to \_\_\_\_\_ issues by studying it for the purpose of finding Biblical principles that will \_\_\_\_\_ our thinking rather than our thinking guiding how we interpret the Bible. The problem with point #1 is the tendency to \_\_\_\_\_ the Bible into saying what it does not say, or even imply. Principles can apply in the many issues we face, and the nice thing about principles, they never \_\_\_\_\_ and therefore, it is our thinking that will change and brought into alignment with the Scriptures.
  
3. A case in point, we know that the Bible warns us to not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers – **II Corinthians 6:14 – 18**. The question, 'Should Christians enter into a relationship with the unsaved, as in marriage, business, or fellowship?'
  - a. The biblical answer is 'NO' based on the principles set forth in our **text**.
    - (1). **Fellowship** – **verse 14** = communion, sharing, marriage. (intimacy).
    - (2). **Communion** – **verse 14** = participation, association (intimacy).
    - (3). **Concord** – **verse 15** = agreement (how one's marriage, a joint venture goes as in spiritual, moral, righteous biblical principles).
    - (4). **Agreement** – **verse 15** = putting together, company conduct, how to raise children, how to handle entertainment, finances.
  - b. How some Christians will try to skirt this.
    - (1). I can be a \_\_\_\_\_ once we are married. What's wrong with this?
    - (2). If we start off \_\_\_\_\_ God, how is this a better witness? (Satan)

- (3). I think I can \_\_\_\_\_ the moral aspect of a joint business. Maybe?
- c. We cannot \_\_\_\_\_ disobeying particular biblical principles by trying to trump one with another. The Word of God was never set up by the holy Spirit to be used in this fashion. Satan knows all too well the problems we create for ourselves and others when we rationalize away our obedience to the Word of God.
4. What does this have to do with our question concerning predestination & Freewill?
- a. I am making the point of rightly dividing the Word of God as it stands.
- b. Not how I want it to stand, making it say what I want it to say & justifying my contrary predetermined desires.

### I. What is \_\_\_\_\_? Romans 8:29

- A. First off, not every action we take, or motive we have, was \_\_\_\_\_ by God!
- B. The meaning of predestination has to do with \_\_\_\_\_:
1. To decide before hand – when and what?
  2. This primarily applies to two destinations.
    - a. For the redeemed it is about ultimately being \_\_\_\_\_ to the person of Christ as per **Romans 8:29** & the object is Christ. (Christ-likeness)
    - b. This is not to say the Holy Spirit isn't already endeavoring that our lives would conform to the way Christ \_\_\_\_\_ His life on earth, because He is. **(Col. 1:9)**
    - c. For the unsaved, it has been determined they will cast be into hell. **(Rev. 20:15)**
    - d. When was all this predetermined? Before the \_\_\_\_\_ – **Eph. 1:3 – 6.**
    - e. God's predetermined goal for the Redeemed - **Eph. 2:10**
- C. Predestination does not mean God has ordained us to live in a specific house, hold a certain job, attend a certain church or marry a particular person or any other myriad of decisions we make in life.
1. He has given us \_\_\_\_\_ to guide us in making good, godly decisions as Believers.
  2. We will all be changed – **I Cor. 51 – 58 & I Thessalonians 4:13 – 18.**
- D. Predestination doesn't mean that God has chosen who will get saved & who will not get saved. **(John 3:16; Acts 2:21 & Romans 10:13.)**
- E. Does God know who will get saved & who will reject Him? \_\_\_\_\_! **(Rom. 8:29.)**
- F. And then follows a list of things He has predetermined who He is going to do this for; those who come to a saving faith in the person of Christ. – **Romans 8: 30,** which He does only for those who come to faith in Him!

**Next week, the Lord willing – part II – Freewill.**