

## Questions Posed for Study

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

**Intro.** We defined 'predestination' as having to do with deciding something beforehand.

Biblically it is about God having decided something even before it exists or existed. It, **Romans 8:29**, was determined by the God-Head, before the foundations of the World were ever created, that a specific people would one day be conformed to the image of His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. These persons whom God had chosen would be all such individuals who come to a saving faith in the person of Jesus Christ. This doctrine in **Romans 8:29** applies to everyone who becomes a Believer. God predetermined, that at some point in every Believers life, they would be conformed to the image of His Son. The Redeemed of the Lord are predestinated to this end. It is a false statement or belief that God had predestined some to salvation and heaven, and others have been predestined to remain lost and going to hell. Whether one ends up in heaven or hell is determined by how they exercise their free-will towards accepting Jesus Christ by faith accepting Christ or in rebellion reject Him. **(Acts 2:21 & John 3:18)**

**The question was:** If we have been predestined, then where dose free-will stand?

## II. Free-will

- A. God's will – when we think this through in light of the \_\_\_\_\_, why would God predestinate someone to hell and others to heaven if He is not \_\_\_\_\_ that any should perish? **(II Peter 3:9)**
- B. God makes Salvation available to \_\_\_\_\_ individual whether they want it or not.
  1. **John 3:16** makes it \_\_\_\_\_ that "whosoever believeth should have everlasting life."
  2. **Romans 10:13** states, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."
- C. Whether or not someone goes to heaven or hell is a matter of \_\_\_\_\_ **they** exercise their free-will. **(John 3:36)**
  1. We all have a free-will when it comes to \_\_\_\_\_ in this life concerning salvation. God does not \_\_\_\_\_ anyone to accept His existence by faith. The knowledge of His existence is all around us, from planet earth to the cosmos, evidence abounds.
  2. Adam and Eve possessed a free-will to \_\_\_\_\_ or not to obey, they knew He existed as they talked with Him in the evenings – **Genesis 3:8 – 19.**
- D. For them there was no question about the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, He existed!

1. Concerning their free-will, it was whether they would exercise it to be \_\_\_\_\_.
2. For you and I, the question is whether or not we will use our free-will to accept the fact that God does exist, that He wants us to come to a **saving** faith in Him.
3. God wants us to know that He exists and that He wants to have a \_\_\_\_\_ with us and us with Him.
4. The problem is that we have inherited a \_\_\_\_\_ nature that has alienated us from Him and even if we do believe there is a God, this does not save us!

(James 2:19, Rom. 5:12)

- a. There is nothing good about this Greek word – [Thanatos].
- b. While its focus is death, it looks beyond death to its destination, hell.

5. John bears this in his Gospel, **John 3:17 – 21.**

- a. In **John 3:17a**, we ask ourselves, ‘Why did Jesus not come to condemn the world?’ Answer \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Because the world is already condemned under the curse of sin.
- c. Note John **3:18b** – These are those folks who have not \_\_\_\_\_ their free-will to accept Christ (Condemned – Perfect tense, passive voice, Indicative mood)  
One doesn’t have to do \_\_\_\_\_ to be separated from God – we are born in this state – **Romans 5:12.**
- d. If one doesn’t want to remain in this state, then they must exercise their free-will and choose to come by faith alone (**Ephesians 2:8 & 9**) and accept Christ as our Savior. (**John 3:3; 16 – 18a & Romans 10:13**)

E. Then comes other areas in which we need to surrender our free-will to Christ such as walking in the Spirit, serving the Lord. (**Galatians 5:17 – 26, note verse 25.**)

1. “Walking in the Spirit” is about discovering in the Word of God, what God would have us do in a daily routine, such as prayer time, devotional time, & **I Thessalonians 5: 11 – 23, for starters.**
2. We would do well to remember that the word “walk,” in **Galatians 5:16 & 25:**
  - a. **Verse 16** means to make one’s way in life or a way of life and to regulate one’s life and it in the imperative mood. (We are commanded)
  - b. **Verse 25** “walk,” means to walk in a row or march in a straight line and to direct one’s life and is in the subjunctive mood.
  - c. Subjunctive mood means this way of life is in the realm of \_\_\_\_\_. If we are unwilling to surrender our free-will to Christ, then the possibility becomes impossible.

F. The success of the Christian life is predicated upon how much we are willing to surrender our lives, our will to the Lord and accept His will as our will. **John 3:30 – 36.**