

ORDER OF SERVICE

January 10, 2021

Worship in Fellowship
Worship in Music
Worship in Message
Worship in Giving

Wayne Braudrick

Predestination

Ephesians 1:3-6

Wonderful Words Series

Life Change: We accept and live out our calling.

Antinomy = the juxtaposition of two things that are demonstrably true, seem to contradict, yet somehow don't.

Foreordination

God has planned the entire construction.

Eph. 1:3-4

Foreknowledge

God knows what will occur, according to His plan & human choice.

Rom. 8:28-29

Election

God has chosen people to be blessed by His undeserved grace.

Rom. 9:11-12

Predestination

God has determined the end beforehand.

Eph. 1:3-6

Eph. 1:4	to be holy and blameless in love
Eph. 1:5	to be adopted in God's very family
Eph. 1:6	to bring praise to His glorious grace
Eph. 1:11	to obtain an inheritance
Rom. 8:29	to be conformed to the image of the Son
1 Cor. 2:7	to obtain glory

Predestination points to God's beautiful sovereignty. There is rest. There is literally nothing I could have done to earn God's salvation, and nothing that I can do to change His mind. That is *immensely* comforting...I will spend all of eternity thanking and praising God for that, and still the gratitude I express will never be enough to accurately portray just how wonderful God is. – Lacyn Ward

Pulling it all together.

2 Peter 1:9-10



WONDERFUL
WORDS

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR PHONE



courtesy Lake Palestine

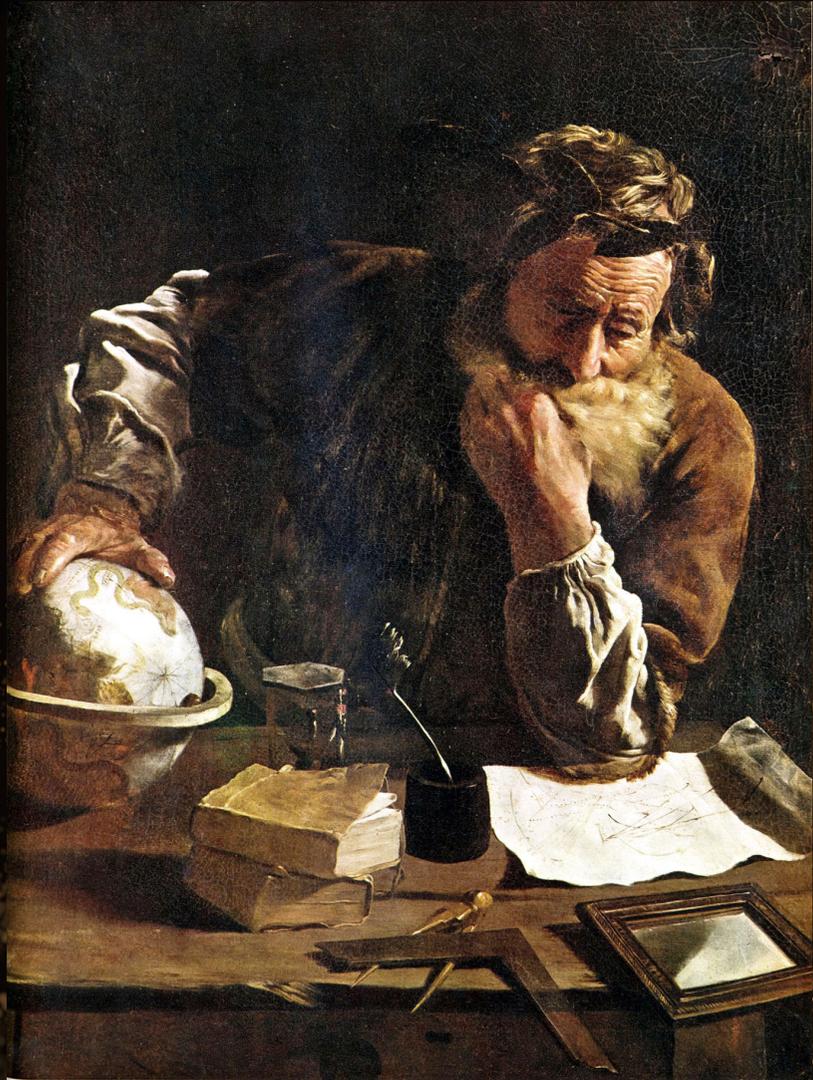
**Predestination.
Sex. Book of
Revelation.**



courtesy Pine Cove



You need to understand the term antinomy. The old Greeks made it up. Anti = against. Nomos = reason or laws. An antinomy is the juxtaposition of two things that are demonstrably true, seem to contradict, yet somehow don't.



An antinomy is the juxtaposition of two things that are demonstrably true, seem to contradict, yet somehow don't.

Archimedes Thoughtful
Dominico Fetti
1620

There are dozens of passages that indicate that humans make choices and have responsibility [or response-ability].

There are hundreds of passages that declare God Almighty is completely sovereign – foreordaining, omniscient, omnipresent, and all-powerful.



courtesy Arch Daily

**From each point of view, one was convinced that the roof was what could be seen – tile and tin, respectively. Only God was able to see both at the same time.
– Stan Toussaint**



some antinomies in scripture

- God is both Transcendent (beyond) and Immanent (near).
- Jesus is both Fully Human and Fully Divine.
- The Bible is both Word of God (divinely inspired) and Authored by Humans (with language limitations).
- The Church is both One universal body of Christ and Many particular local communities.
- The Church is both Holy (God's Spirit with us) and Imperfect (in need of ongoing reform).
- Human nature is both Good (created in God's image which is not erased by sin) and Sinful (the Imago Dei is defaced).

some antinomies in scripture

- **The focus of our lives should be on both The Present world (living rightly) and The world to come (going to heaven).**
- **As human beings we are both Individual persons and Social beings in families & communities.**
- **Faith is both a gift from God to us and A proper human response to God.**
- **We know God through both Faith and Reason.**
- **Our relationship to the Earth involves both Caring for the environment and Using the world's resources.**
- **God's Kingdom, as preached by Jesus, is both A present reality and Awaiting future fulfillment.**

some antinomies in scripture

- We respond to a Christian's death with both Mourning for our loss and Rejoicing in their new life with God.
- Life after death can be thought of as both Resurrection of the body and Immortality of the soul.
- The Risen Jesus is both Present, ever with us (cf. Matt 28) and Ascended to return physically again (cf. Luke 24).
- The Final Judgment is both Individual/Particular and General/Universal.
- Christian Theology embraces both The Via Positiva (what we can know) and The Via Negativa (what we cannot know).



Human responsibility



Predestination

Ephesians 1

³ Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens in Christ. ⁴ For he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless in love before him ^{CSB}

Rom

1 C

2 Co

Gal

Ephesians

Phi

Col

1 Th

2 Th



courtesy Azul Bandit



courtesy vrbo



**The world is too
complex...I cannot see
how nature could
have created itself.
– Francis Collins, *The
Language of God***

Ephesians 1

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¹¹ In him we have also received an inheritance, because we were predestined according to the plan of the one who works out everything in agreement with the purpose of his will ^{CSB}

Job 22

**28 When you [God]
make a decision, it
will be carried out ^{CSB}**

What about the times that God's foreordained plan seems horrible?



Job 22

**28 When you [God]
make a decision, it
will be carried out ^{CSB}**



Left behind
Tim Putala
2019

The earliest church showed amazing wisdom in accepting foreordination. As merely one example, look at Acts 4. The apostles had seen their mentor brutally killed. Then they were illegally detained and threatened. Yet when they met with the church, they prayed through Psalm 2 thinking about the hurt they had endured from evil people. Then they said this: “But everything they [our tormentors] did was determined beforehand according to your will.” [Acts 4:28 NLT]

The answer to hurt is to embrace God's foreordination and foreknowledge, not to create a lesser god in our image. After all, as Acts 4 shows, the resurrection of Jesus was also planned beforehand. That resurrection makes everything different, including the loss of our daughter. We know this is not the end and we praise God for His plan to resurrect, even though it includes pain before all is made new. – a grieving Christian

Romans 8

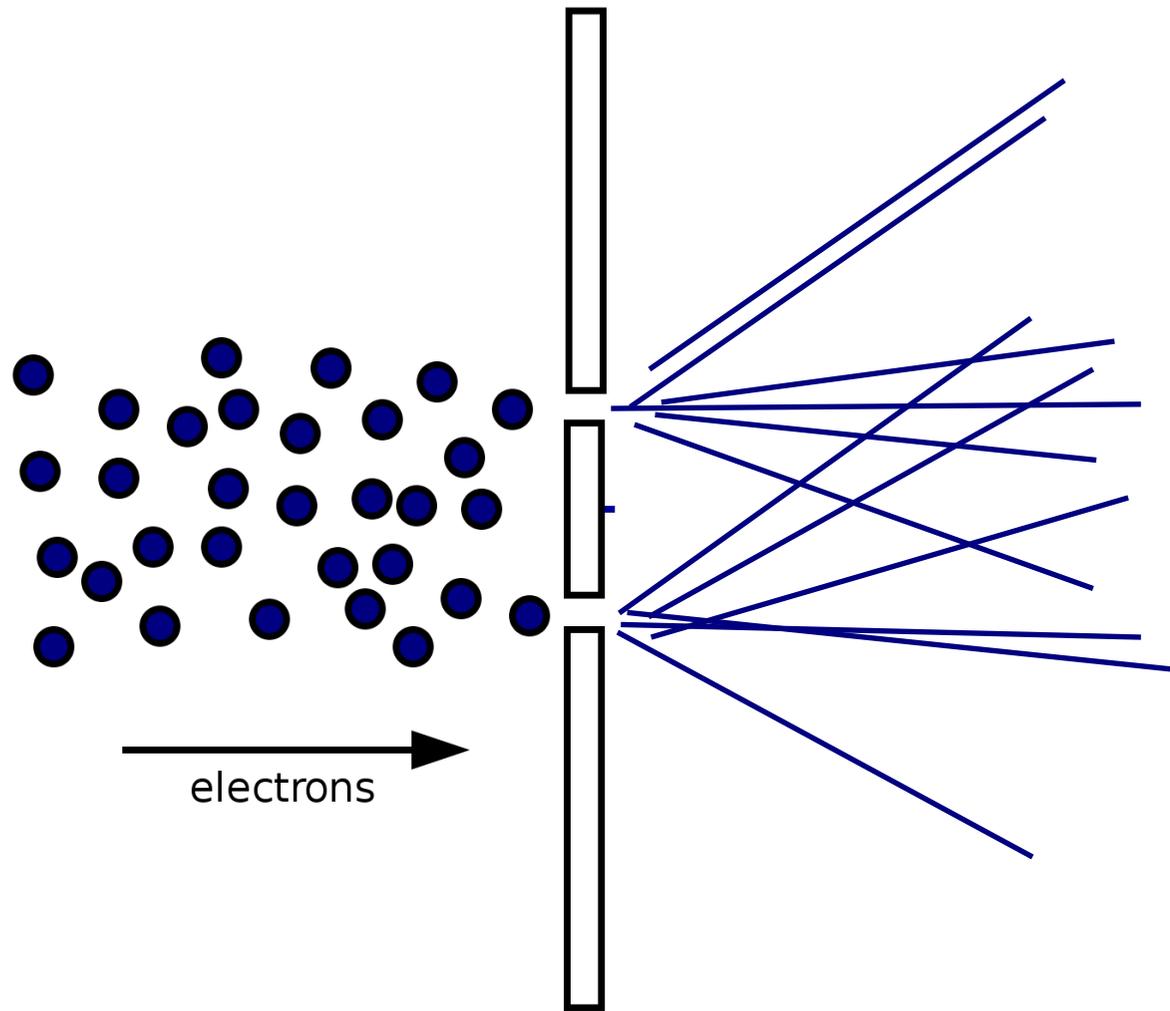
28 We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. 29 For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ^{CSB}

God is a God who is all-wise, who knows with certainty the course of all events past, present, and future. God is an omniscient God; yet foreknowledge is not synonymous with God's omniscience. Foreknowledge, as used in scripture, refers to what God knows with certainty will come to pass *because He has decreed that event...Foreknowledge, then, is the result of God's foreordination of what would take place.* – J. Dwight Pentecost, *Things Which Become Sound Doctrine*

1 Peter 1

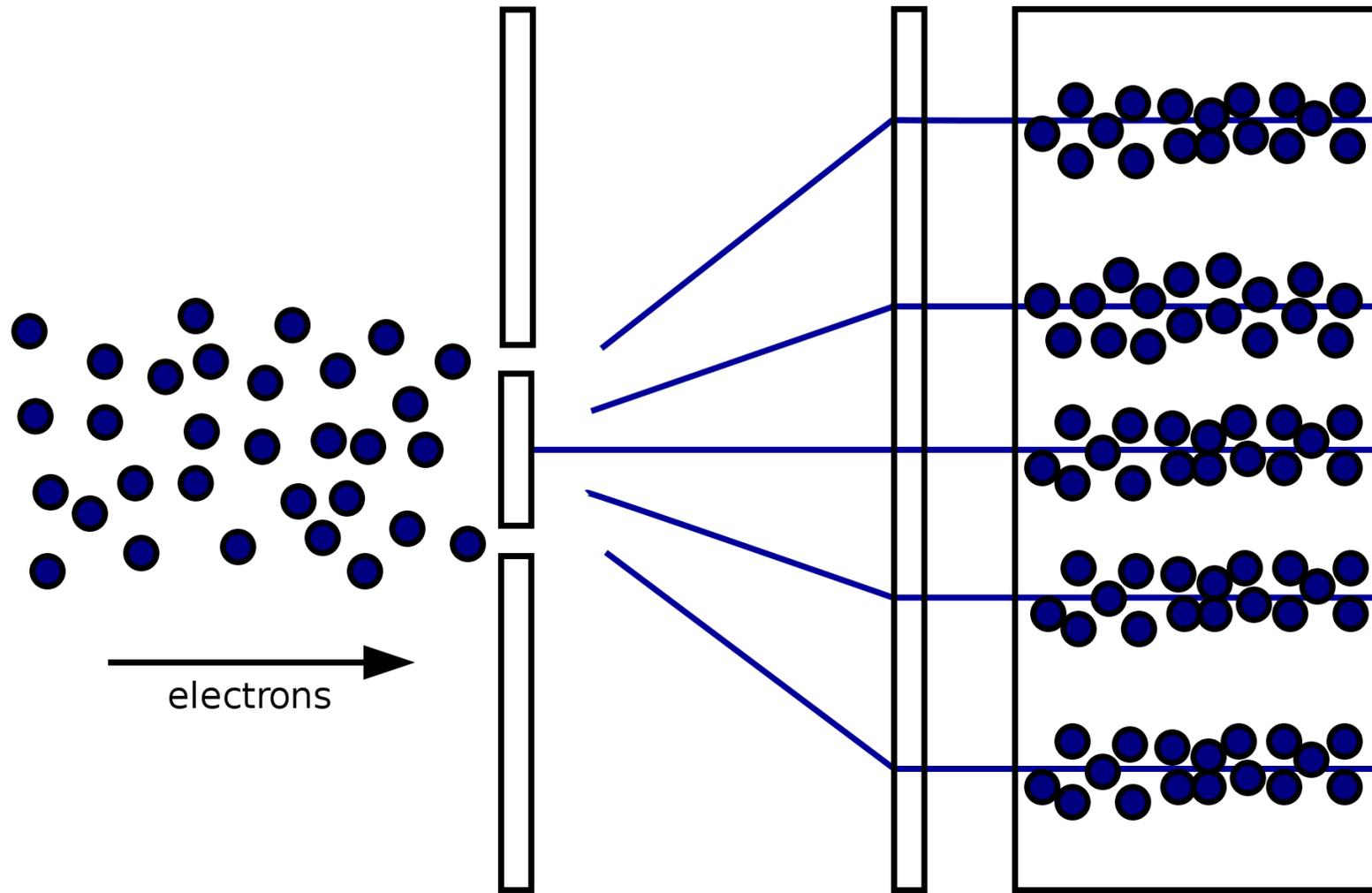
¹ Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ:

To those chosen, living as exiles dispersed abroad in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, chosen ² according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient and to be sprinkled with the blood of Jesus Christ. May grace and peace be multiplied to you. ^{CSB}



electrons

screen with
two slits



electrons

screen with two slits

optical screen

optical screen (front view)

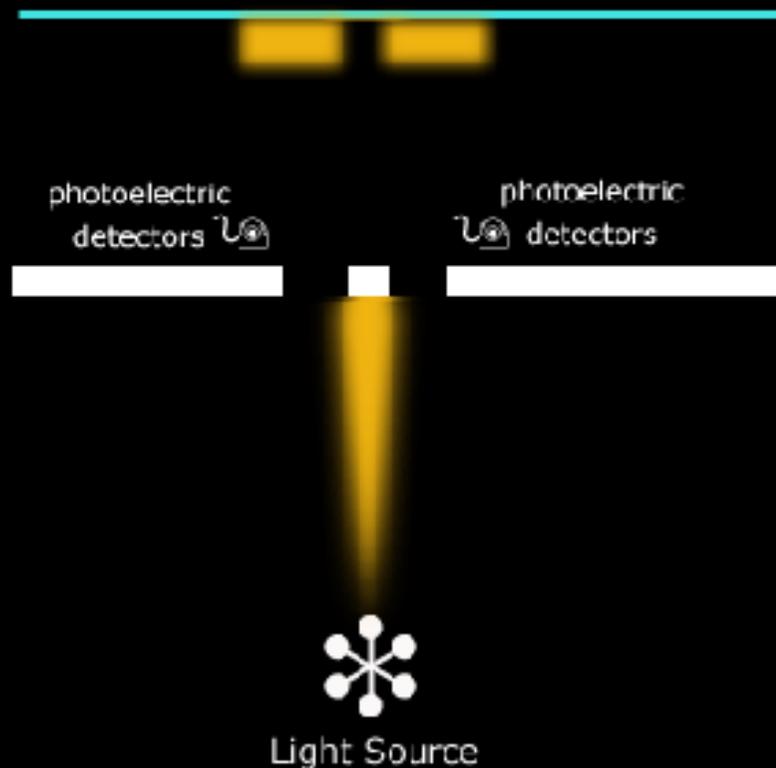
This suggests something very, very weird is going on: The photons seem to “know” where they would go if they were in a wave. It’s as if a theater audience showed up without seat assignments, but each person still knew the exact seat to choose in order to fill the theater correctly. – Ashley Hamer, “The Double-Slit Experiment Cracked Reality Wide Open”

courtesy Curiosity



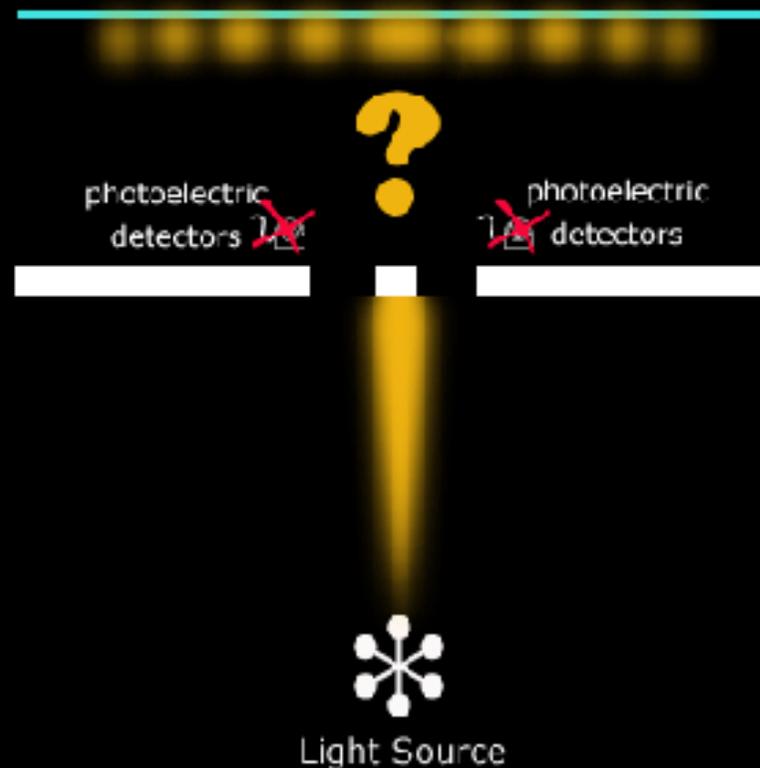
With One or Both Detectors Turned On

Pattern indicates particles
(just like when we used bullets)

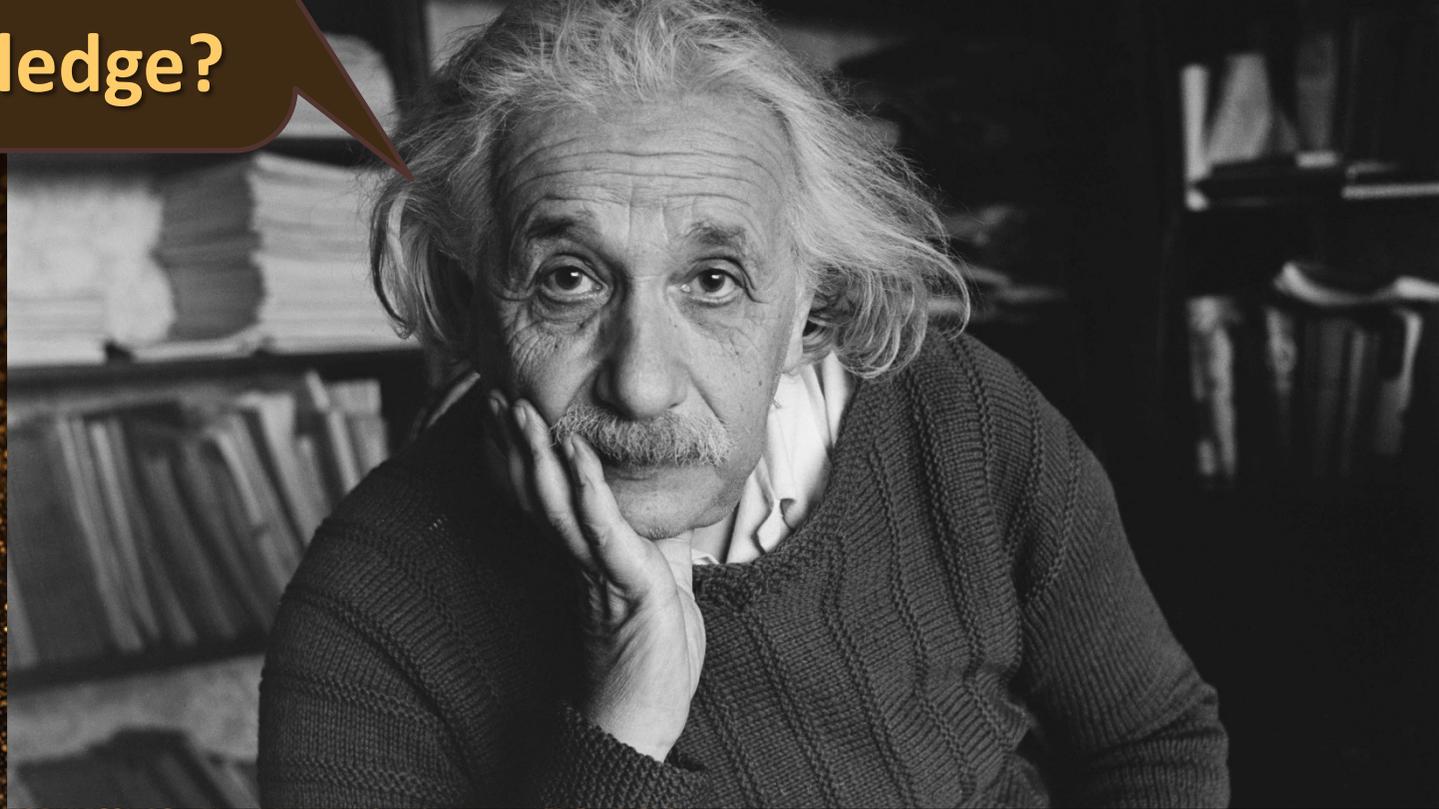


With All Detectors Turned Off

Pattern indicates a wave
(just like interference pattern)



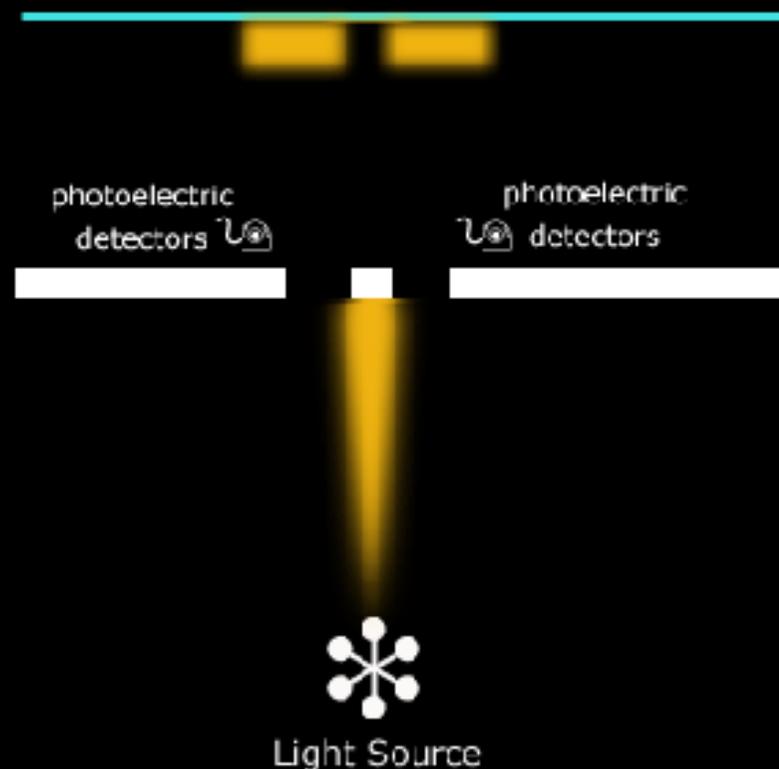
**What does that
have to do with
foreknowledge?**



courtesy History

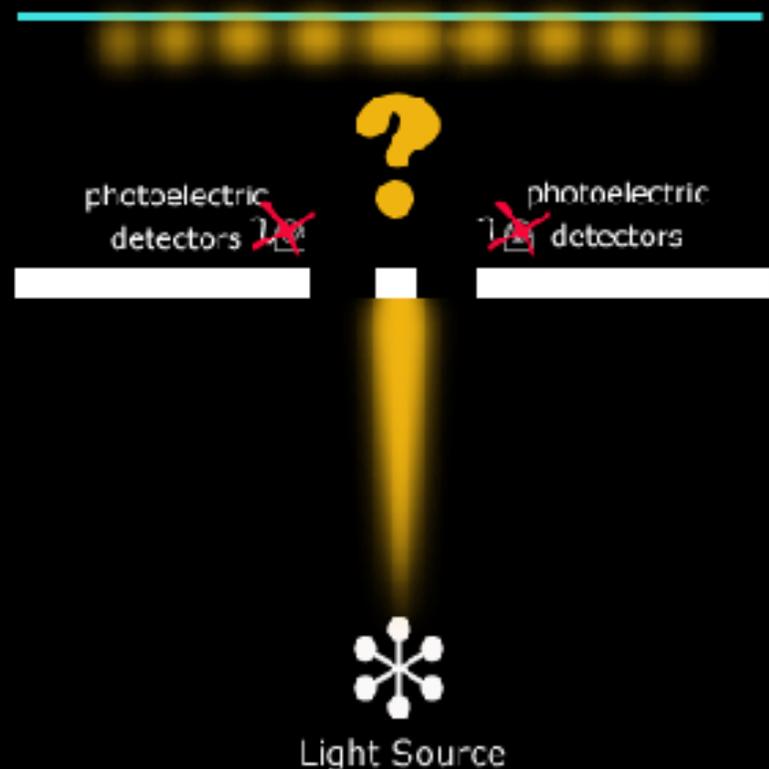
With One or Both Detectors Turned On

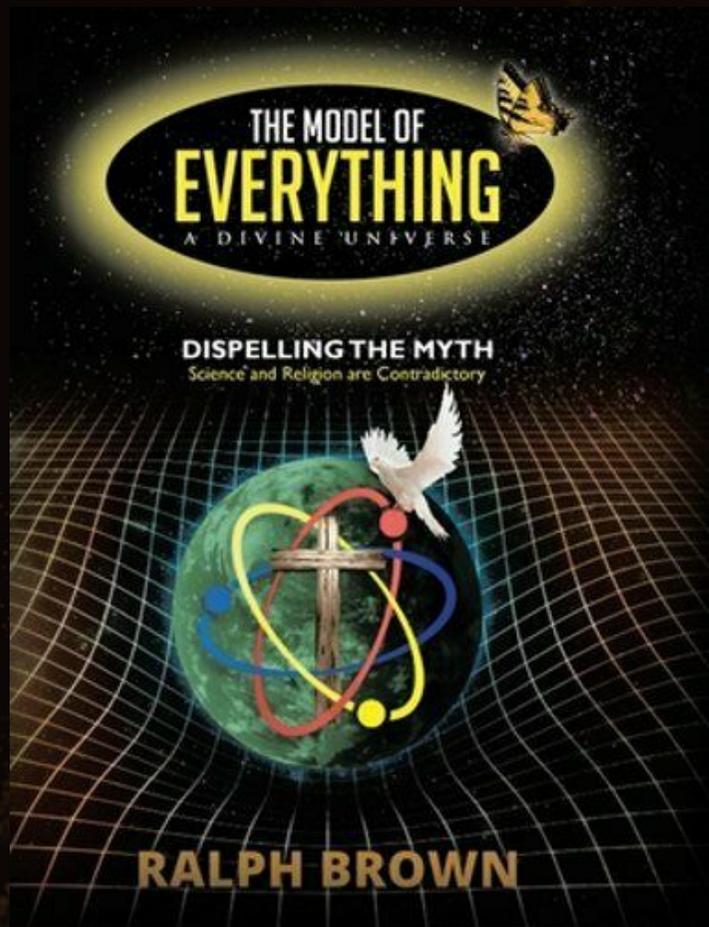
Pattern indicates particles
(just like when we used bullets)



With All Detectors Turned Off

Pattern indicates a wave
(just like interference pattern)





courtesy Christianbook



GETTY IMAGES

courtesy CNN

You
Decide
★2020

★ ELECTION

COUNTDOWN

WE GO
THERE

10:30 53°

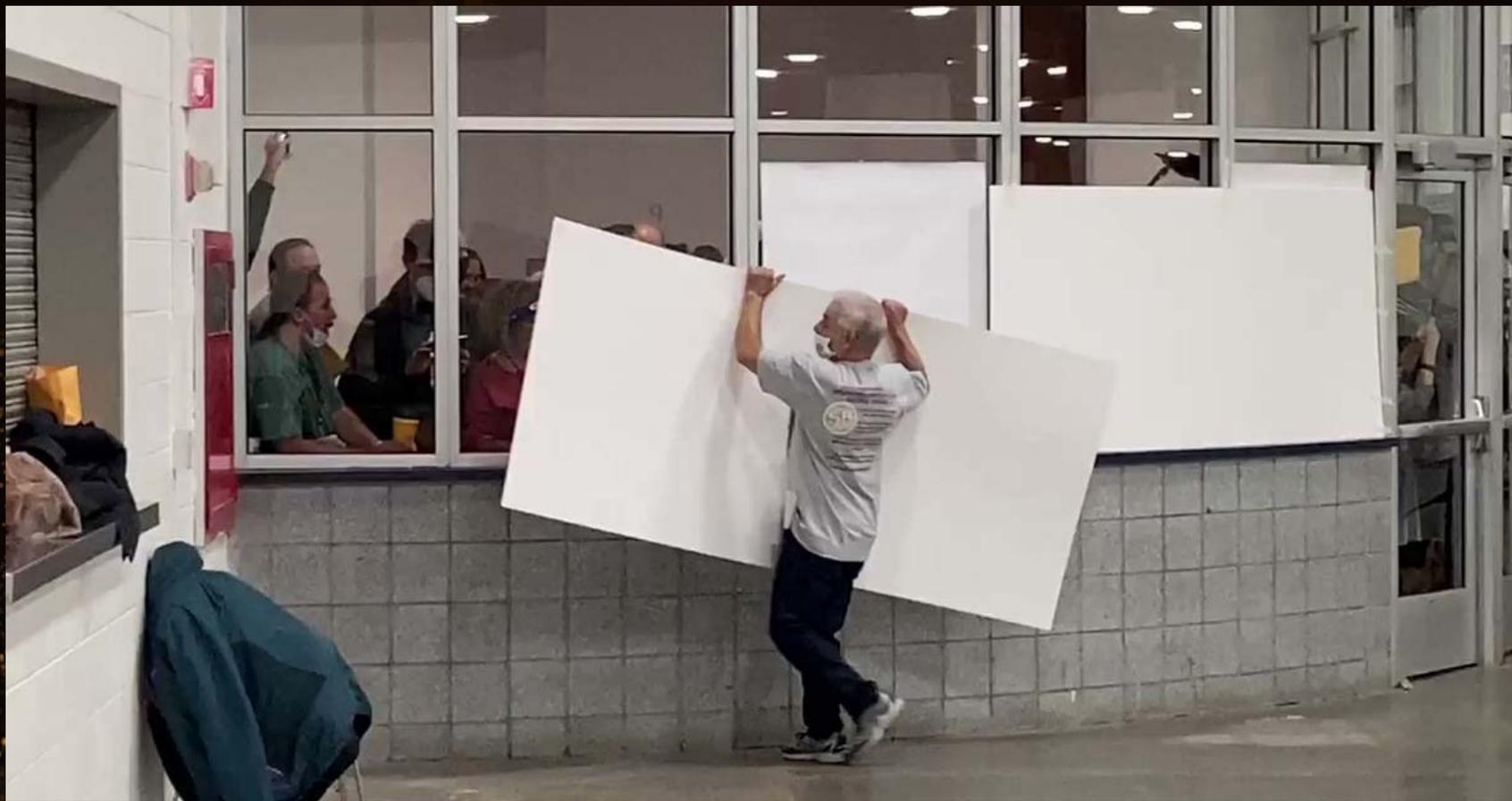
FOX

LE'VEON BELL SIGNS 1-YEAR DEAL WITH THE CHIEFS

FOX

TEMPLE HOS

SPORTS



courtesy Todd Starnes

1 Peter 1

¹ Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ:

To those chosen, living as exiles dispersed abroad in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, chosen

Ephesians 1

⁴ For he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless in love before him ^{CSB}

Romans 9

¹¹ For though her sons had not been born yet or done anything good or bad, so that God's purpose according to election might stand—¹² not from works but from the one who calls—she was told, *The older will serve the younger. [Gen 25]*^{CSB}



**Hyper Calvinists
all election**



Arminians
all human choice

PS4™



CALVINIST

2017

OVER
40 HOURS
OF
CUTSCENES!

LITERALLY
ZEROS
OF CHOICES!

PRESELECTED AS GAME OF THE YEAR



Human responsibility



Predestination

The behavior of the light upon introduction to the experiment and the detector configuration that will exist when the light reaches it are two completely independent events. [Similarly] God's election and our choice relative to salvation are two completely independent events... [Remember] we live in a cocoon with a time-space boundary. The boundary establishes a separation between our physical universe and God's existence, and we are only able to pursue knowledge from within our cocoon. Election [is] a spear of knowledge provided by God, but we cannot fully comprehend it. – Ralph Brown, *The Model of Everything*

Foreordination – God has planned the entire construction.

Foreknowledge – God knows what will occur. This is according to His plan and somehow doesn't eliminate human choice.

Election – God has chosen people to be blessed by the miracle of His undeserved grace.

Predestination – God has determined the end beforehand.



Ephesians 1

³ Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens in Christ. ⁴ For he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless in love before him. ⁵ He predestined us to be adopted as sons through Jesus Christ for himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he lavished on us in the Beloved One. ^{CSB}

Predestination – determining the end beforehand

Some ends for which Christians are predestined:

Eph. 1:4 to be holy and blameless in love

Eph. 1:5 to be adopted in God's very family

Eph. 1:6 to bring praise to His glorious grace

Eph. 1:11 to obtain an inheritance

Rom. 8:29 to be conformed to the image of the Son

1 Cor. 2:7 to obtain glory



“You have been set aside for the programme in order that you might make a substantive contribution to the humanities.” – David Lane and Pauline Armsby, Her Majesty’s Professional Development Foundation

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Predestination points to God's beautiful sovereignty. There is rest. There is literally nothing I could have done to earn God's salvation, and nothing that I can do to change His mind. That is *immensely* comforting. Jesus tells us: "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and whomever comes to Me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will but the will of Him who sent Me. And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that I should lose nothing of all that He has given Me, but raise it up on the last day."

For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in Him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.” (John 6:37-40). It is guaranteed. I will spend all of eternity thanking and praising God for that, and still the gratitude I express will never be enough to accurately portray just how wonderful God is.

– Lacyn Ward





human choice
responsibility
“free will”



predestination
election
foreknowledge
foreordination

2 Peter 1

⁹ The person who lacks these things [immediate context includes a list of these traits: faith, goodness, knowledge, self-control, endurance, godliness, brotherly affection, and love] is blind and shortsighted and has forgotten the cleansing from his past sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election, because if you do these things you will never stumble. ^{CSB}

2 Peter 1

¹⁰ Therefore, brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election, because if you do these things you will never stumble.



Greek: βέβαιος bebaios [beh' bay oce] = something trustworthy, a solid thing that will hold your weight

2 Peter 1

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Ephesians 1

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As one who tends toward pharisaical legalism in my fallen nature, the doctrine of predestination has transformed from an abhorrent, ugly thought to an immense comfort as I have aged. It is exhausting trying to be perfect all the time, especially [since] all our righteous deeds are as dirty rags unto God. Thus, even my “goodness” is broken – and nothing I do can assure me of my salvation. In my most perfect day, I still fully deserve God’s wrath.

Thank God for His grace and mercy, that Jesus lived the perfect life I could not. Even more, thank God that Jesus lived that life and bore my punishment on that cursed tree on my behalf. He did not stay dead but continues to advocate for me and all believers at the right hand of the Father. – a friend



WONDERFUL
WORDS