

Your Ultimate Destiny

Probably one of the most frustrating things in the world is the feeling that your life is going nowhere. Have you ever been there? It can be a deep rut to pull out of. You were not made to live without a destiny. God made you; he designed you to be sustained by a meaningful, purposeful future. We were made to be sustained by a purposeful future. We were made to live with the assurance of a significant destiny. I want us to think about our eternal destiny and connect it with the word “predestined” in Ephesians 1:5.

I. The Goal of Your Destiny

- A. i.e., for those who have willfully, consciously submitted themselves in obedience to God. These are God’s chosen or elected ones. What are we destined for?
 - 1. Ephesians 1:5: *He **predestined** us to be adopted as sons through Jesus Christ for himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,*
 - 2. God predestined you for sonship — from before the beginning of the world.
 - 3. “Predestination” refers to the goal, destiny, or “result” of our salvation.
- B. Sonship, i.e., to take on the family likeness.
 - 1. Ephesians 1:4 - *For he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be **holy and blameless** in love before him.*
 - 2. Romans 8:29 - *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.*
 - 3. Ephesians 4:24 - *put on the new self, the one created according to God’s likeness in **righteousness and purity** of the truth.*
- C. Its All from Love
 - 1. Ephesians 1:4: *to be holy and blameless **in love** before him.*
 - 2. 1 Thessalonians 3:12–13: *and may the Lord cause you to increase and overflow in love for one another, and for all people, just as we also do for you; so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.*
 - 3. Your destiny is to live in and walk in love. Love is the pathway to holiness.
 - 4. 1 John 4:8: *The one who does not love does not know God, because God is **love**.*
- D. Your Highest Destiny
 - 1. Ephesians 1:6: *to the praise of his glorious **grace** that he lavished on us in the Beloved One.*
 - 2. You have been recreated to reflect God’s grace throughout eternity.

II. The Ground of Your Destiny

- A. Ephesians 1:5: *He predestined us to be adopted as sons through **Jesus Christ** for himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,*
- B. Ephesians 5:25-27: *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself for her to make her holy, cleansing her with the washing of water by the word. He did this to present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and blameless.*
- C. What is the basis for your having become holy and blameless?
 - 1. Answer: the loving self-sacrifice of Jesus on your behalf. (v. 25)
- D. 1:5: *It was all according to the good **pleasure** of His will.*

III. As We Close...

- A. Romans 8:31–38
- B. If you are in Christ, you have been rooted in him. You are connected to an awesome purpose.
- C. Have you been adopted?