

Predestination and Paul's Prayer
Ephesians 1:11-23
Al Gascon | April 21, 2024

Ephesians 1:5

⇒ προορίζω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: proorizó

Ephesians 1:11-23

The Doctrine of Election and Predestination

Calvinism	Arminianism
Man is unable within himself to respond to God	Man can do good and choose Christ
God elects believers solely according to his will and goodness	God elects believers on the basis of foreseen faith
Christ died for the elect	Christ died for all
God's grace cannot be denied	God's grace can be resisted
Elect never lose salvation	Believer may lose salvation

- a. Single Predestination
- b. Double Predestination
- c. No predestination

Galatians 3:26-27

⇒ Being sealed guarantees: security, authenticity, ownership, and authority.

⇒ We embody the love of the Savior we put our complete faith in, which confirms our salvation in Christ.

⇒ ἐπίγνωσις: epignósis -

- 1. *epí*, "on, fitting" which intensifies.
- 2. *gnósis*, knowledge gained through first-hand relationship – "contact-knowledge" that is appropriate to first-hand, experiential knowing.

⇒ You have all that you need in Christ right now, everything in Christ is at your disposal because you're in him and know him.

Quote of the Week

Every Christian has many specific needs— physical, moral, and spiritual— for which he, or she must ask the Lord’s help. But no Christian needs, or can have, more of the Lord or of his blessing and inheritance that he or she already has. That is why Paul tells us, as he told the Ephesians believers, not to seek more spiritual resources, but to understand and use those we were given in absolute completeness the moment we received Christ.

– John MacArthur

Discussion Questions

- a. What are some of the steps you’ve taken over your time following Jesus to come to know him more and be closer to him every day?
- b. Are there certain activities, locations, or seasons that draw you closer to God?
- c. Outside of knowing Christ and knowing the blessings you have in him, what is a need or prayer you have that you may not have brought to him or haven’t asked for in a while?
- d. What flaws do you see in the idea of double predestination? Double predestination — everyone was predestined by God before creation to go to heaven or hell, and nothing they did/no action they take could ever change that.
- e. Do you think there is comfort in the idea, whether you believe it in part or not at all, that God predestined and chose you to be with him for all eternity by sheer grace, and not based on your actions?