

Predestination and Freedom of Will

A Biblical Studies Class

Background

John 6:44-47 No one can come to me, except the Father draw him (cf. vs. 45)

We are as passive with respect to our own regeneration [new birth] as Lazarus was to his resurrection, and as the universe was to its creation. We were not cooperating agents in our biological conception or generation [birth], nor are we active agents in our regeneration [new birth].

- R.C. Sproul, *Grace Unknown*, p. 189

What We Can Choose

Gen 2:15-17; 3:1ff Adam was given a command, and chose to disobey it

Deut 28 The blessings and the curse of the law

Jer 42ff God provided them a way of safety, which they rejected

Jonah 3-4 God gave Nineveh a chance to repent, which they did

Rom 10:9-10 If thou shalt confess (acknowledge), thou shalt be saved

What Has Been Chosen

Rom 5:6-9 Being justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath (vs. 9)

Rom 8:15-25 Waiting for...the redemption of our body (vs. 23)

Rom 13:11 Now is our salvation nearer than when we believed

I Cor 15:51-58 This corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality (vs. 53)

Eph 1:13-14 Until the redemption of the purchased possession (vs. 14)

Eph 2:4-8 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus (vs. 7)

Eph 4:30 Ye are sealed unto the day of redemption

Col 1:3-5 For the hope which is laid up (NIV: stored up) for you in heaven (vs. 5)

I Thes 4:13ff So shall we ever be with the Lord (vs. 17)

I Thes 5:9-10 God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation

I Tim 1:1 Lord Jesus Christ our hope

Tit 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised

Tit 3:5-7 Heirs according to the hope of eternal life

I Pet 1:3-9 Begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead - vs. 3

What God Knows

Gen 18:19 For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD

Gen 20:1-6 I know that thou didst this in the integrity of thy heart (vs. 6)

Ex 3:7 I have surely seen the affliction of my people...I know their sorrows

Deut 2:5-7 The LORD thy God ... knoweth thy walking through this great wilderness these forty years

Deut. 34:10 There arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face

Psa 44:20-21 He knoweth the secrets of the heart

Psa 92:5 Thy thoughts are very deep

Prov 3:19 The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding

Isa 40:28 The LORD...fainteth not...there is no searching of his

Isa 55:8-13 My thoughts are higher than your thoughts (vs 9) understanding

Jer 51:15 He hath stretched out the heaven by his understanding

Ezek 11:5	I [the LORD] know the things that come into your mind [your thoughts], <i>every one of them</i>
Nahum 1:7	The LORD...knoweth them that trust in him
Mat 6:25-34	Your heavenly father knoweth that ye have need of all these things (vs 32)
Mat 7:11	Ye...know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father...give good things to them that ask him
Mat 24:36	Of that day and hour knoweth no <i>man</i> ...but my Father only
Luke 12:6-7	Even the very hairs of your head are all numbered
Rom 11:33-34	The depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God
I John 3:20	God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things

What Jesus knew

Mat 12:25	Jesus knew their thoughts and said unto them
John 6:61-71	Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him (vs. 64) [even though he knew, they still decided!]
John 16:28-33	Now we are sure that thou [Jesus] knowest all things (vs. 30)

What Others Walking with God Knew

Gen 40:5-8	Joseph - Do not interpretations belong to God? (vs. 8)
Deut 31:27-29	For I (Moses) know that after my death...ye will do evil (vs. 29)
Dan 2:17-24	Daniel - Wisdom and might are his (vs. 20)

What God Indicates He Does Not Know

Gen 22:12	Now I know that thou fearest God
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- Deut 8:1-2 The LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.
- Deut 13:1-3 The LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul
- Jer 32:29-35 I commanded them not, neither came it into my mind (vs. 35)

Predestination and Foreknowledge – In Context

- Acts 2:22-23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:
- Rom 8:29 Whom [plural] he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren
- Rom 8:30 For whom he did predestinate, them [plural] he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.
- Romans 11:2 God hath not cast away his people [plural] which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying,
- Eph 1:3-5 Having predestinated us [plural] unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will
- Eph 1:11 In whom also we [plural] have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will
- 1 Peter 1:2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

What You Desire

- Psalm 37:4 Delight thyself in the Lord...he shall give the desires of thine heart
- Jer 42:1-17 That the Lord thy God may show us the way wherein we may walk (vs. 3. cf. Jer. 44:15-19, whatsoever goeth forth out of our mouth)

Luke 22:39-44	Remove this cup from me...not my will, but thine, be done (vs. 42)
Acts 16:6-15	Forbidden (<i>koluo</i>) of the Holy Ghost...Macedonian call
Acts 20:7-21:36	What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? (Acts 21:13)
Rom 1:8-13	I purposed (determined) to come unto you, but was let (<i>koluo</i> -forbidden, hindered, prevented)
Col 4:2-3	Praying...that God would open unto us a door of utterance
James 4:13-15	Ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that

God's Will

Ps. 40:1-8	I delight to do thy will, O my God
Luke 22:42	Not my will, but thine be done
John 8:29	I do always those things that please him
Rom 12:2	Prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God
Gal 1:1-5	We are delivered from this present evil world (age) according to the will of God, <u>even</u> our Father (vs. 4)
Eph 1:1-14	Paul was an apostle, we have sonship according to God's will
Eph 5:15-17	Be ye not unwise, but understanding the will of the Lord
Eph 6:5-8	Doing the will of God from the heart
Col 1:8-14	Pray that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will (vs. 9)
Col 4:12	Laboring in prayer, ye might stand complete in all the will of God
III John 2	God's will is prosperity and health

Prayer According to God's Will

Mat 21:22	All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer
I John 5:14	If we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us

James 5:16-17 The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much
(I Kings 17:1-18:1 - The Word of the Lord: No Rain, Rain)

Rom. 8:26-27 Intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

And God, Who searches the hearts, knows what are the thoughts
originating from the spirit in manifestation, because it makes
intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord...he shall direct thy paths

Deut 7:9 The Lord thy God is the faithful God, which keepeth covenant

Choose Your Life

Deut 30:19 Choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live

Josh 24:1-15 Choose ye this day whom ye will serve (vs. 15)

Prov 1:20-33 They did not choose the fear of the Lord

Acts 2:36-41 Repent (change your mind – a change of choice), and be baptized

Acts 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted

Acts 17:30 Now commandeth all men everywhere to repent

Romans 2:4 The goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance

Eph 4:17-32 Walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind

Phil 3:14-16 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God

Col 3:1-17 Seek those things which are above

II Peter 3:9 God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come
to repentance

A Godly Attitude

Num. 12:1-8 Now the man Moses *was* very meek, above all the men which
were upon the face of the earth (vs 3) [Heb. 3:1,2,5]

I Sam 6:6	Wherefore then did ye harden your heart?
I Sam 15:17	When thou <i>wast</i> little in thine own sight, <i>wast</i> thou not <i>made</i> the head of the tribes of Israel, and the LORD anointed thee king over Israel?
I Kings 21:25-29	Because he (Ahab) humbleth himself before me (vs. 29)
II Kings 22:8-20	Because thine heart was tender, and thou humbled thyself (vs. 19)
Ps. 37:7-11	The meek shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace
Mark 3:1-10	He looked on them with anger, grieved for the hardness of their hearts (vs. 5)
Phil 2:5-11	He (JC) humbled himself, and became obedient unto death (vs. 8)

Conclusion: Pray Fervently and Trust God

Ps. 119:164	Seven times a day do I praise thee (vss. 161-168)
Daniel 6:10	Daniel prayed three times a day, as aforetime
Ps. 63:5-6	Meditate in the night watches on my bed (vss. 1-8)
Mark 1:35	He went out into a solitary place, and there prayed
Col. 4:12	Labouring fervently in prayers
I Thes. 5:17	Pray without ceasing

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