



**MAYBE
TODAY**

With
Dr. Gary
Frazier

Paul's Letter to the Romans:

Lesson 16

Chapter 8:29-30

No Condemnation!

No Separation!

As we embark on these verses today, I want us to ponder a great truth for a moment and that is this, Romans 8 begins in verse 1 with ***NO CONDEMNATION*** and ends in verse 39 with ***NO SEPARATION!***

If you have ever wanted to shout Hallelujah this would be a good time to do it!

29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. 30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

As we arrive at the mid-point of Paul's letter to the believers in Rome, he is desirous of their being confident of their eternal salvation as opposed to being spiritually defeated by Satan's constant accusations!

It's vitally important we understand exactly both What and Why we can be certain we are born again!

For this to be the case Paul connects the 5 Golden Links of the Salvation Chain:

1. Foreknowledge

2. Predestination

3. Called

4. Justification

5. Glorification

1. Foreknowledge-v29a:

29 For those God foreknew

What is foreknowledge?

The words in the Greek are:

***prognosis* (N) and *proginosko* (V).**

The Greek word for knowledge is ***gnosis***.

We recognize the first as a medical term.

It simply means to know ***beforehand***.

7 times these words are used in the N.T.
and I want you to note these.

1) This man was handed over to you by
God's deliberate plan and ***foreknowledge***;
and you, with the help of wicked men, put
him to death by nailing him to the cross.

Acts 2:23

2) They have ***known*** me for a long time and can testify, if they are willing, that I conformed to the strictest sect of our religion, living as a Pharisee. Acts 26:5

3) God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew. Don't you know what Scripture says in the passage about Elijah—how he appealed to God against Israel:

Romans 11:2

4) who have been chosen according to the ***foreknowledge*** of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood:
Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

1 Peter 1:2

5) He was chosen (literally ***foreknown***) before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.

1 Peter 1:20

6) Therefore, dear friends, since you have been ***forewarned***, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position. 2 Peter 3:17

2. Predestined-v29b

he also ***predestined*** to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

These words are ***horizo*** and ***proorizo*** that mean something that is predetermined to take place. They are used 13 times in the N.T.

1) The Son of Man will go as it has been ***decreed/predetermined***. But woe to that man who betrays him!” Luke 22:22

2) This man was handed over to you by God’s ***deliberate plan/set purpose*** and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. Acts 2:23

3) They did what your power and will had decided *beforehand* should happen.

Acts 4:28

4) He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. Acts 10:42

5) The disciples, as each one was able, ***decided*** to provide help for the brothers and sisters living in Judea. Acts 11:29

6) From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he ***marked/ determined*** out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. Acts 17:26

7) For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has ***appointed***. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

Acts 17:31

8) and who through the Spirit of holiness was ***appointed*** the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 1:4

9) No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God *destined* for our glory before time began.

1 Corinthians 2:7

10) he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—

Ephesians 1:5

11) In him we were also chosen, having been ***predestined*** according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ¹² in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 1:11-12

12) God again ***set*** a certain day, Hebrews 4:7

Let me pause here to answer a question many ask:

If God knows something beforehand, or if God predestines it, what implication does this have for the involvement, responsibility, and moral status of those affected by the happening?

Is God's *Foreknowledge* causative-i.e. does the fact that God knows something will happen cause it to happen and therefore relieve any participant from responsibility?

The answer is NO! The Bible never regards God's *Foreknowledge* or *Predestination* as diminishing human responsibility.
EX- the crucifixion.

3. Called/Elect/Elected/Chosen-v30a

²⁹ For those God **foreknew** he also **predestined** to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also ***called/elected/chose***;

Here is the 3rd link in the Golden Chain of redemption!

The word group used here is the Greek eklegomai, eklektos, ekloge.

We get our English words *eclectic*, *elect*, *select* and other related words from these.

As we do our word study, we find these words are used of believers and the majority of the times Jesus uses the term *elect* in connection with His return.

1) And he will send his angels and gather his ***elect*** from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens. Mark 13:27

2) And will not God bring about justice for his ***chosen*** ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off?

Luke 18:7

3) Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Colossians 3:12

4) The elder, To the lady ***chosen*** by God and to her children, whom I love in the truth—and not I only, but also all who know the truth...2 John 1

From these and many other references it is clear that “elect” or “chosen” was a common way in New Testament times of referring to Christian believers.

However, context determines understanding!

For example, Israel is frequently described as “chosen” in the Old Testament.

⁶ For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has ***chosen*** you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession. Deuteronomy 7:6

The fact that God chose Israel did not mean that all Israelites were believers, or that all Gentiles were unbelievers.

This opens up the idea of God choosing that there should be a group such as Israel to carry out His purposes, as distinct from His choosing the individuals who should be in it.

Back to our text:

²⁹ For those God *foreknew* he also *predestined* to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also *called*; those he called, he also *justified*; those he justified, he also *glorified*.

Because God knew, before the foundations of the earth, who would open their hearts to Him He predestined us, called us and then by His shed blood justified us and one day will glorify us!

So, the Process has a Point!
The salvation of our soul!

The Process allows the Foreknowledge, Predestination and Calling to happen simultaneously with the Justification occurring at the moment we believe and the Glorification at the moment we see!

Closing thoughts:

We don't know who is chosen.

If we have given our life to Jesus we have been chosen.

Every person is **CALLED** but we must choose.

We are commanded to be witnesses to all!

24 “The Lord bless you and keep you;

25 The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

26 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.”



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