

Predestination

Introduction--read list of passages teaching it.

Could. Is it hard to be in the hands of God? Make everything right

- I. Theological import of the central passage, Rom 9, *Sept 1* *11/22/88 - Rom 9:15*
 - 1. God's elective purpose is not based upon natural generation, 6-9. All the descendants of Abr not elect--only promised seed in Isaac, 8.
 - 2. God's choice is not based on human merit, 10-13. Choice between Esau and Jacob before birth and chance to do anything. Based solely on sovereign purpose and call, 11.
 - 3. The choice of God is related to His mercy, 14-18. If He were not merciful He could not have loved Jacob. If God's choice based on knowing how kids would turn out should have chosen Esau, bec Jacob didn't turn out very well.
 - 4. God's elective purpose is related to His omnipotence, 19-29. Does man have the wisdom to question God, 20? Does creator have power over creature, 21? If God couldn't have retreated into His sovereignty, no man would ever be saved.

- Exh 1-*
 - 1. Preterition, 4
 - 2. Dominion, 4
 - 3. Sovereignty, 5, 9, 11

4. Justice all things, 11
5. Purpose is His glory, 6, 12, 17
If all things concern Him, then they ought to concern me.

II. Terms involved.

- 1. Omniscience. Knowledge of all things actual and possible, Mt 11:21.
- 2. Foreknowledge. Prior knowledge of all things actual. Rom 8:29; 11:2; Acts 26:5; 1 Pet 1:20. Word includes idea of conscious relationship. *1:23 1:2 2:15-17 Justice 9:6 Rom 11:2*
- 3. Foreordination. Pre-planning of all events. Separated from foreknowledge only in theological terminology. Actually foreknow includes idea of foreordaining bec of relationship bet subject and object.
- 4. Predestination. Preplanning of destiny. In Bible limited to destiny of elect, but word can be used of destiny of non-elect as well.
- 5. Retribution. Deserved punishment. *(Rom 12)*
- 6. Election. God's act of choosing a people. Election the act, predestination the result.
- 7. Preterition. To pass by. Softer term used in relation to non-elect.
- 8. *sovereign* *Rom 17:8 (pf. term)*
- 9. *free* *Control only. Absolute control of God. Aug. faith, let alone*

III. Nature of Decree of God.

- 1. There is only 1 decree of God. Only divided by men for convenience. Purposing of God all at once as a whole.
- 2. The decree did not arise from the foreknowledge of God (as foreknowledge usually understood).
 - a. Arises from God's omniscience. Knew all possible plans, chose 1, and whole plan chosen was rendered certain by the choosing. *157 311*