

#130 Predestinated Sons

1 This morning I would like to take for our text Ephesians 1:3-5, verse 11 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: 4According as he hath chosen us in him (notice it was He who chose us, not our choosing him. When?) before the foundation of the world,(so that throws out the fundamentalists argument that your choice is the most important thing you have. It's not your choice, it's his choice. And to clinch that nail Paul tells us when we were chosen, he said before the foundations of the world, while we were yet a thought in God's mind He chose you, it's not your choosing that counts. And the purpose of His choosing you Paul says, ...) that we should be holy and without blame before him. 5 In lovehaving (past tense) predestinated us (predetermined us) unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, (not according to the pleasure of your will. Your will has nothing to do with His plan. Jesus surrendered His will to the Father, and so must you.)

2 Now, verse 11In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated (again that is something that has already taken place. It is again speaking of in the past, something that God did, not something that you did.) being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

3 Did you catch what he said here...according to the purpose of him... after the counsel of his own will:

4 Let us pray...

5 Now, in our text we read some pretty strong words from Paul concerning predestination. Let's turn to Romans 8: 29 And I want you to notice the past tense that Paul uses in his teaching here. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, (now the word foreknows and predestinate are not the same words and do not have the same meaning. They are two different words to describe how he predestinates.) that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

6 William Branham vindicated prophet of God, yes vindicated prophet of God according to how God defined a vindicated prophet in Deuteronomy 13 and 18, not according to how the Pentecostal churches define a prophet. But how god defines his Prophets. Because I am not interested in their definition, I am interested in God's definition. And God's prophets will come with thus saith the Lord and it will NEVER fail. Not one time, for if it does you don't have to believe him.

7 Deuteronomy 18:18I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. 19And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him. 20But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die. 21And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken? 22When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.

8 So, I am not interested in your thoughts. I am not even interested in my own thoughts. It's either what God said and backed up or it's nothing. The Baptist will tell you he believes in predestination for certain people like

Moses and Paul and Jesus etc, but Paul said, and Paul was vindicated by that same Pillar of Fire that came to Moses and vindicated Him with His presence. That same Pillar of Fire that entered into the Son of God at the river Jordan. That same Pillar of fire that came down over William Branham on the Ohio river, and that took his picture with him in Houston. And that Same God who spoke to Moses, Paul William Branham spoke of sons being predestinated unto the adoption of sons. And this Vindicated prophet of God said in his sermon the Spoken Word is the originals seed the following...

9 103Predestinated: all sons and daughters of God are predestinated. We'll get to the Scriptures after while; I'm just quote it to you: Ephesians the 1st chapter, 5th verse. All right, we are predestinated. Why? Christ is the original Seed, and this original Seed was predestinated by the foreknowledge of God, knowing that the fall would come, and predestinated Him to take our place. You get it? All sons and daughters of God are predestinated. But you say then, "Would He condemn...?..." No, sir. You're here on free moral agent, but the reason that He know... He being God, the infinite One (as I spoke to you about), He foreknew everything that would be. He knew who they were.

10 104Now, He didn't make Eve do that. He didn't make her do it, but He knew she would do it. Now, no wonder I believe in the 12th chapter of Saint Luke (I believe it is), He said... (Now, don't put that down; I've got it wrote down a little later.) that He said, "They got eyes but they don't see. They got ears but they don't hear. Isaiah well spoke of you. Isaiah foresaw you." And there they are setting there with eyes, ears, and everything else, but yet they can't see. Why? They are a repellent to the Word of God. Then Jesus said, "Oh, you hypocrites. You're the... You are the children of the devil and his works you do. Then condemn Me," He said, "refuse My ministry..." When show me where your ministry's producing the full Word of God, as His was. See, see?

11 105 Now, predestinated as He was, now you say, "How does that predestination come?" God's formal... Now, everybody don't understand this, I want you to raise your hand now when I get finished. See?

12 106 God, in the beginning, commissioned Adam and Eve to multiply and replenish the earth. That's how sex was given; that's why it was. But what caused the hybreeding? Bring death. Now, we'll get that this afternoon in the two wombs. See? Now, notice. Now, in this God foresaw and predestinated a world of sons and daughters. He predestinated them to be there. And because of hybreeding, disbelieving God's Word, caused a hybreeding, God's put it right back again that you don't have to be hybrid anymore; you can come right back to the original Word and be a son of God just like you was supposed to be at the beginning. See?

13 107 Christ couldn't help being what He was. He was the Son of God. That's it. See what I mean now? See if you were intended, you see the Word of God, you believe It; because why? There's something new. See? Why? Have you ever heard of strain in a family? A one... A son will kind of impersonate his father, or the mother, or the grandfather, or the grandmother. That's strain in the family. You've heard of it, haven't you? Well, that's the same thing from predestination. You were supposed to be here in the right way at the beginning, but being that you come the way you did, you're subject to the fall. But being that you're predestinated you hear the Word and It brings you right back where you were predestinated. Amen. Never saw that before. Brings you right... And what makes you believe the Word of God and turn down these other things? Is because you were... There's something in you. Way back yonder you was supposed... You are made to live here forever.

14 108"All right, Scripture for that, preacher." Here it comes: "All that He foreknew, He's called, all that He has called, He has justified, and all that He has justified, He has already glorified." "What's the use of preaching, Brother Branham?" There is a crop out there; only thing I'm doing is seining. I'm just throwing it out there and see where it goes. If the repellents, the grease of the muck of the world, denominations throw it off, I can't help it; but if there's one out there that can absorb it, he will turn to be a son and daughter of God just as sure as the world (Amen.), 'cause it's predestinated.

15 109That's the reason that God could work His works through Jesus; He was a predestinated Son. He was the Lamb slain before the foundation of the world. Before a hundred billion, trillion, million years ago that we said Genesis 1:1 spoke of awhile ago, He was right then predestinated to take His place. Amen. That's the reason the will of the Father He did. He was the Word made manifest. And every one of the other sons will have the same manifestation, and that's the ones that was predestinated.

16 We find brother Branham speaking of Predestination quite strong here this morning, so I would like to examine the difference between Foreknowledge, Election and Predestination. Many people today, especially the Fundamentalist and Evangelical differ greatly on exactly what Election and predestination are all about. The main issue however, has not been whether God predestinates or not, as much as the issue of choice, or rather whose choice. Men want to be in control of their own lives that they have placed free moral agency as the ultimate in a man's experience with God. Men would rather have the ability to choose God, than to trust God to do His own choosing. Thus, they explain away election by using foreknowledge of God, as their excuse to place man's ability to choose above God's Own choice.

17 Romans 11:33 ¶ O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! 34For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counselor? 35Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? (You know what that means? It means who chose God first and God was obligated to accept that choice. That places God as some lap dog doing man's bidding. No respect for God at all.) 36For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

18 Again Paul says in I Corinthians 2:9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. 10But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for The Spirit searches all things, yea, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knows the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knows no man, but The Spirit of God knows. (So don't tell me a bunch of theologians can get together and know the things of God. They are blind to God and His ways unless God reveals them through His Spirit. And the men can not do it without having the Spirit of God in them.) 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. (So, unless you are filled with the Spirit of God you will in no way shape or form understand the things of God. Jesus said, unless you are born again you can not see the kingdom of God. You can not understand it.) 13Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teaches, but which the Holy Ghost teaches; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. (The Holy Ghost teaches comparing scripture with Scripture, he is not interested in comparing His Word with your words or that of any man. Scripture must be upon Scripture, or forget it.) 14But the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.15 But he that is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. 16For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

19 Thus they say, God being omniscient, and knowing the end from the beginning, knew who would and who would not and based upon this foreknowledge, God then elects those to Glory who choose right, and He elects to condemnation those who do not choose right. In believing this men place man's ability to choose above God's sovereign will, and thus fall into error.

20 Now, that might give you a warm fuzzy about God, but it doesn't hold up in the court of God's Word. In order to believe this you must be willing to throw out entire passages of Scripture and you must be willing to believe that man is capable on his own of making a correct choice.

21 God knows your end from your beginning because He pre-destined your end. That is what the word

predestinate means. It means to pre - destine. To mark out before hand, your destiny. Therefore, predestination is the path you are destined to take.

22 Let's turn to the Word now and examine the very scriptures that must be relegated to the trash heap in order to prove free will has anything to do with election.

23 In John 15:16, Jesus said, Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and [that] your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

24 Now, we ought to stop right here and rest our case. Either this is meant for all believers or it is not. If it is not, then all believers are not expected to bring forth fruit, and all believers are not entitled to ask the Father in the name of Jesus and expect to receive what they ask for. But I say, Jesus is telling us here that we did not choose Him first, He chose us, and our love toward him, and acceptance of Him, is only in response to His choice.

25 In I John 4:19, we hear John tell us, "We love him, because he first loved us." Now, either this is true or it is not. Then if this is not true, we must rip it out of our Bible. And if this passage is in error, then what else is in error. If we believe God wrote the Word, that His Bible is the Un-adulterated Word of God, then we must accept what it tells us. Scripture does not fight scripture.

26 In Deuteronomy 7:6, we read, "For thou [art] an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that [are] upon the face of the earth. 7The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye [were] the fewest of all people: 8 But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. 9 Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he [is] God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations; 10 And repayeth them that hate him to their face, to destroy them: he will not be slack to him that hateth him, he will repay him to his face.

27 Again we see that it was not our choosing but God's choosing that is involved here.

28 In Proverbs 14:12, we read, ¶ There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof [are] the ways of death.

29 This scripture tells us that man will try to choose what seems right, or the way that he believes to be the right way, but man's choice will always lead to the way of death. Therefore, even in our choosing, we need a God who will watch over our choices, and help us to make the right choice.

30 In Philippians 3:15 we read, ¶ Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

31 In the following scriptures we find God is actively involved with the choices His elect take.

32 Psalms 37:23 The steps of a [good] man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. Here we find the Hebrew word Kuwn used for "ordered", and means to set up or establish, to prepare or arrange. Therefore we see the hand of God actively involved in the steps of a good man or righteous man.

33 In Proverbs 16:9 we read, ¶ A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps. Here we find

that although a man may contemplate and even plan his way, yet God has the ultimate say so and will direct the very footsteps of that man. Jonah was a classic example of this. The Lord told Him to do such and such and when Jonah had what he thought was a better plan, God just took over the situation and produced exactly what He intended to produce. Jonah had no choice, or at least his choice meant nothing to what God wanted done.

34 In Jeremiah 1:5 we read, Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, [and] I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. Jeremiah could not get away from it if he tried. For this very reason he was born.

35 We also find in the book of Acts 13:48, And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

36 If we are to believe this scripture, then we must acknowledge that all who are ordained to Eternal Life will believe. Then those who are not ordained to Life will not believe, and there is your evidence of election.

37 I Corinthians 2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, [even] the hidden [wisdom], which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

38 Ephesians 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

39 Now, if God had a word which He ordained before the world began, and if that word was to produce Glory in a chosen people, or a people of God's choosing, then there had to be a people in God's mind before the world began who would at the right season believe this predestinated Word, and receive the glory it was ordained to produce.

40 Now, just as there are those who were ordained to glory and to eternal Life, we also find those who were ordained to condemnation. JUDE 1:4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

41 The Apostle Paul shoots the theory that speaks of free moral agency as the root cause for election to pieces in Romans chapter 9. Romans 9:11 (For [the children] being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) 12 It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. 13 As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated. 14 ¶What shall we say then? [Is there] unrighteousness with God? God forbid. 15 For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. 16 So then [it is] not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy. 17 For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. 18 Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will [have mercy], and whom he will he hardeneth. 19 Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will? 20 Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed [it], Why hast thou made me thus? 21 Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonor?

42 Paul makes it very clear that our election is not up to you or I, but entirely up to God. He even goes so far to say, So then [it is] not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy. Now, if it is not him that willeth, then your will and my will have nothing to do with our election at all. It is God who either

chooses to show mercy or not. Therefore, if your will has nothing to do with your being elect, then neither does your choice for your choice is but a reflection of your will. You will and then you choose.

43 Divine healing 54-1219M P:49 Listen. It's not him that wants to get saved, that's saved. It's him that's saved by God's choice. Esau wanted to get saved too. He wept bitterly, and couldn't find no place to repent. He wanted to get saved. It ain't 'cause you want to get saved. God said, "I've hardened who I will harden. I have mercy on whom I want to have mercy." That's right. He said, "Before Esau or Jacob, either was born, not knowing right and wrong," God said, "I love Jacob and hate Esau." And Esau tried to get right with God and couldn't. Pharaoh tried to get right with God and couldn't do it. So it's not you, not what you want. It's what God has ordained for you to do. That's right. Paul said in the 9th chapter of Romans there, "Hasn't the potter got power over the clay to make an honored vessel or a dishonored vessel, to show His glory to those who He has honored?" You didn't know that, did you? That's what the Scripture says. Pharaoh tried his best to repent. He was kindhearted. He said, "Sure, I'll let you go. Go on." God said, "No, you ain't. I'm going to harden his heart so you can't do it." 'Cause God's Word has to be fulfilled. And if we're living in this day when formalities and things has broken the church down, broke away; why, it's God's Word being fulfilled. As sure as God said, "These signs would follow them that believe," as sure as God said these churches would be like they are now, God also said this opposition would meet it. So the same God that ordained signs and wonders, ordained that these should be persecuting against It. So there you are. If you're on the other side, I feel sorry. And I want you not to be that way, but maybe you can't help it. See? God might've fixed it that way.

44 Now, to place foreknowledge and election and then predestination in their proper place, we must first know the definitions of each. Therefore, since most people wish that foreknowledge is the preeminent principle behind election, we will start with this point first.

45 FOREKNOWLEDGE: What is it? The word foreknowledge is made up of two words. Fore being a prefix meaning beforehand, and knowledge meaning to know, hence to know beforehand.

46 I 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.

47 prognosis {prog'-no-sis} 1) foreknowledge 2) forethought, pre-arrangement

48 Hebrews 6:17 Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed [it] by an oath: 18 That by two immutable things, in which [it was] impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: 19 Which [hope] we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;

49 Election : To Select out, to choose, to appoint, hence to make a choice, To choose involves as process of previewing or showing forth, then an assessment opinion or judgment is expressed and the selection then is made based upon the assessment, opinion or judgment. DOXA

50 Isaiah 42:1 ¶ Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, [in whom] my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.

51 Isaiah 45:4 For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me.

52 Isaiah 65:9 And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob, and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains: and

mine elect shall inherit it, and my servants shall dwell there.

53 Isaiah 65:22 They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree [are] the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

54 Psalms 139:15 My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, [and] curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. 16 Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; and in thy book all [my members] were written, [which] in continuance were fashioned, when [as yet there was] none of them. 17 ¶ How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!

55 John 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and [that] your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

56 John 6 & 8,

57 John 1:12-13 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

58 Job 38:4 ¶ Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. 5 Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? 6 Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; 7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

59 Matthew 25:34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

60 I Peter 1:20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

61 I Thessalonians 1:2 ¶ We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; 3 Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father; 4 Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.

62 II Thessalonians 2:13 ¶ But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

63 I John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

64 Lamentations 3:37 ¶ Who is he that saith, and it cometh to pass, when the Lord commandeth it not?

65 Psalms 65:4 Blessed [is the man whom] thou chooseth, and causeth to approach [unto thee, that] he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, [even] of thy holy temple.

66 Predestinate..(greek) Proorizo = predetermine, determine before ordain, predestinate, to limit in advance.

67 Romans 8:29 For those whom He has known beforehand He has also pre-destined to bear the likeness of His Son, that He might be the Eldest in a vast family of brothers; 8:30 and those whom He has pre-destined He also has called; and those whom He has called He has also declared free from guilt; and those whom He has declared free from guilt He has also crowned with glory.

68 Ephesians 1:3 ¶ Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly [places] in Christ: 4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. 7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; 8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; 9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: 10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; [even] in him: 11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

69 Matthew 4:31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

70 Mark 13:22 For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if [it were] possible, even the elect.

71 Romans 8:33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? [It is] God that justifieth.

72 Colossians 3:12 ¶ Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; 13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also [do] ye. 14 And above all these things [put on] charity, which is the bond of perfectness. 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

73 Titus 1:1 ¶ Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; 2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

74 I 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.

75 I Peter 2:6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

76 II John 1:1 ¶ The elder unto the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth; and not I only, but also all they that have known the truth;

77 haireomai {hahee-reh'-om-ahee} AV -- choose (3) 1) to take for oneself, to prefer, choose 2) to choose by vote, elect to office

78 Pre-Destinate: pre meaning before, and destine meaning destiny. To Pre-determine. To determine

beforehand. Pre-destiny. Again we see that to predetermine means to mark out and determine beforehand. Therefore, chance is negated altogether. Design becomes supreme. Choosing beforehand is essential and indispensable. The word determine not only implies influence but the power necessary to control or enforce the outcome desired.

79 We can see by all these words that a Design, and thus a Designer is evident. Nothing is left to chance, which is chaos theory. Nothing is left to coincidence, nothing is left to will, nothing is left to the strength of the pre-destined, nothing is left up to the abilities of the predestined ones, but all by a great design is planned out and back by a power to ensure it through it's final outcome. Hence all is under a continual enforcement and control of the One doing the predestinating. Therefore, a plan is involved, and a destiny is set in stone.

80 Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts [are] not your thoughts, neither [are] your ways my ways, saith the LORD. 9 For [as] the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. 10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: 11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper [in the thing] whereto I sent it.

81 John 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: 28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any [man] pluck them out of my hand. 29 My Father, which gave [them] me, is greater than all; and no [man] is able to pluck [them] out of my Father's hand.

82 I Corinthians 3:7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

83 Romans 9:9 For this [is] the word of promise, At this time will I come, and Sara shall have a son. 10 And not only [this]; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, [even] by our father Isaac; 11 (For [the children] being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) 12 It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. 13 As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated. 14 ¶ What shall we say then? [Is there] unrighteousness with God? God forbid. 15 For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. 16 So then [it is] not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy. 17 For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. 18 Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will [have mercy], and whom he will he hardeneth. 19 Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will? 20 Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed [it], Why hast thou made me thus? 21 Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonor? 22 What if God, willing to shew [his] wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: 23 And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory,

84 Then knowing we have a God Who is Sovereign, One Who changes not, and Who chooses right (Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?) One Whose Word is Eternal and immutable, One whose first choice is His best choice, then it is This One Who has Chosen. It is this One Who has planned out the destiny of all man. It is This One Who has determined our destiny, even before.

85 Let us pray...