

Acts Series

Lesson #22

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Dean Bible Ministries

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# The Acts of the Apostles

## “To the end of the earth”

### Acts 1:8



**Acts 2:22, “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—”**

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**ἀποδείκνυμι** (*apodeiknymi*), prove, appoint, demonstrate, exhibit.

**Acts 2:23, “Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;”**

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ὁρίζω *horizo*

perf mid part fem sing dat (variant)

to determine, to appoint

“set plan, specific plan, the determined plan”

**Luke 22:22, “And truly the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!”**

**Acts 10:42, “And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead.”**

**Acts 11:29, “Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea.”**

**Acts 17:26, “And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,”**

**Acts 17:31, “because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”**

Acts 2:23, “Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and **foreknowledge** of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;”

πρόγνωσις (*prognōsis*), foreknowledge.

BAGD: foreknowledge (with no further explanation), or predetermined.

LSJ, 1473, states the basic meaning as “know, perceive, learn, or understand beforehand, prediction.” The idea of judging beforehand is listed but seems to be basically grounded in foreknowledge, i.e., to judge in the sense of evaluate beforehand on the basis of knowledge.

MM, 538, gives the meaning as “foreknow, know previously.”

NIDNTT, to know beforehand, to know in advance

**“Foreknow,” as its etymology in both Greek and English suggests, usually means “to know ahead of time.” See Acts 26:5, where Paul says that the Jews “knew before now, for a long time, if they wished to testify, that I had lived according to the strictest party of our religion.” This being the commonest meaning of the verb, it is not surprising that many interpreters think it must mean this here also.**

**~Douglas Moo, *Romans***

**Acts 26:5, “They knew me from the first, if they were willing to testify, that according to the strictest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee.”**

**1 Pet. 1:20, “He indeed was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you”**

**2 Pet. 3:17, “You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked;”**

**1 Pet. 1:2, “elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.”**

# **The Tan Background Represents the Omniscience of God (Infinite Knowledge)**

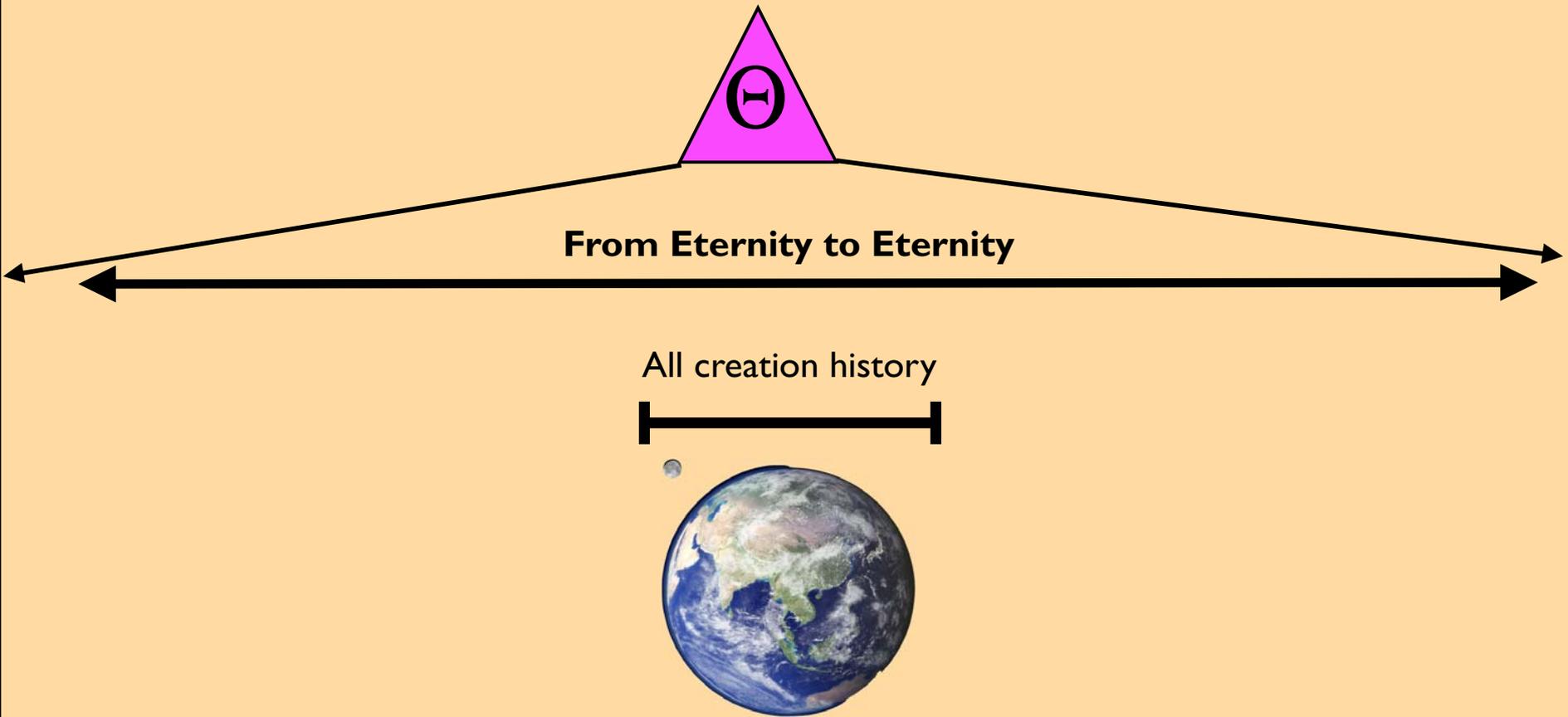
- **God knows all that can be known: all the “what ifs,” the possibilities, to the infinite extrapolation.**
- **God’s knowledge never increases, diminishes, or changes.**
- **God knows all things immediately, directly, intuitively, along with all their relations, and causes. There is no temporal nature to divine knowledge. It is all eternally present.**
- **God’s knowledge does not determine what will or will not be.**
- **God’s knowledge of what will actually happen is a subset of all that He knows.**

# The Tan Background Represents the Omniscience of God (Infinite Knowledge)



Divine  
Knowledge  
of what will be

# The Tan Background Represents the Omniscience of God (Infinite Knowledge)



**God's knowledge includes all events, choices, actions, thoughts; actual and potential.**

**God's decision of what will be, is usually presented as**  
**a. He determines every detail of what will take place, or**  
**b. He determines what will be based on the decision of the creature. Either God determines in a strong determinism, or man determines and God is simply a reactor. This is a logical fallacy.**

**Scripture does not inform us WHY God chose Abraham to work through and not, let's say, Job. Only that He did.**

**Either he chose arbitrarily, or He included within His choice all that He knew. But to include His omniscience, does not make man's decisions causative.**

**Especially, if some of those decisions are in themselves, non-meritorious.**