

Ephesians Series

Lesson #017

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Dean Bible Ministries

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EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

Pre-Appointed for Service
Ephesians 1:3–5

Eph. 1:3, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

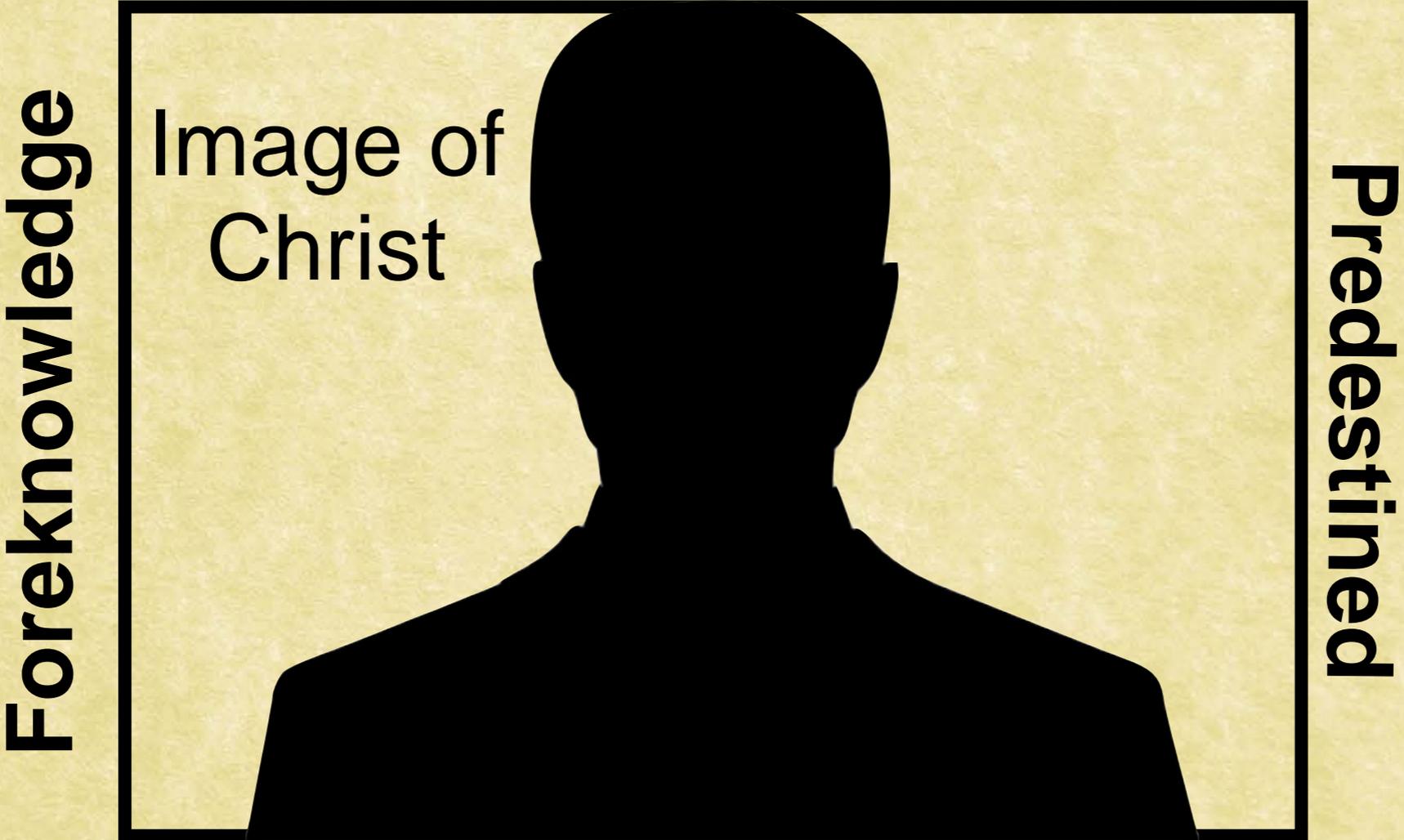
Eph. 1:4, “just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,

Eph. 1:5, “having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Eph. 1:6, “to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.”

Key Words for Understanding Eph. 1:3–5

Choose



His Will

1. Greek words

ἐκλεκτός *eklektos* 22× elect, chosen

**ἐκλέγομαι *eklegomai*, select the best
qualified for a mission or purpose,
appointment for a mission. 22×**

**ἐκλογή *eklogē*, picking out, the choice of
the excellent. 7×**

Judg. 20:16, “Among all this people were seven hundred choice men who were left-handed; every one could sling a stone at a hair’s breadth and not miss.”

**“choice almonds”
*sheqadim mobecharim***



“Indeed the phrase, *bacor atnaho* means I will appoint him or make him first born, which speaks of a given right and not one acquired by nature.”

~M. Weinfeld, *Royal Grant*

“The key idea here of both the Hebrew terms and the Septuagint is in God selecting or setting apart qualified people to fulfill some commission or office.”

~C. Gordon Olson, *Beyond Calvinism and Arminianism*

TWOT:

“In all of these cases serviceability rather than simple arbitrariness is at the heart of the choosing.”

Gen. 23:6, “Hear us, my lord: You are a mighty prince among us; bury your dead in the choicest of our burial places. None of us will withhold from you his burial place, that you may bury your dead.”

Matt. 22:14, “For many are called, but few are choice.”

No one was chosen. They are “choice” because they are dressed in imputed righteousness.

Isa. 61:10, “I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.”

Key Words

προορίζω *proorizō* aor act indic 3 sing to decide beforehand (instant detail summary in Accordance)

προορίζω *prohorizō*, decide upon beforehand, predestine. NIDNTT

ὀρίζω (*horizō*), determine, appoint; Heb. 4:7

ἀφορίζω (*aphorizō*), separate, set apart, appoint

Predestination (Gk. *proorízō*).* The divine determination of human beings to eternal salvation or eternal damnation. *Eerdman's Bible Dictionary*

Predestination (from Lat. '*praedestinare*', Vulg. tr. of Gk. προορίζειν, 'foreordain'). The Divine decree according to which certain persons are infallibly guided to eternal salvation. *Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*

Predestination Divine and unalterable determination of the salvation or damnation of human beings even before they are created.

Predestination God's foreordination of persons to a particular end, most commonly to a particular eternal destiny and less commonly to a particular vocation or to a particular task.

***NIDNTT*: cl & ot The compound *prohorizoœ* (formed from *pro*, in front, before and *horizō*, to ordain, determine) is only used from the 4th cent. B.C. onwards (Demosth., 31, 4), and means to preordain. It is not found in the Septuagint (LXX).**

“To prove that these statements of mine are true, that he even now declares that the land is mortgaged for a talent, but that he laid claim to two thousand drachmae more on the house, and took the pillars down after the suit was decided, I shall bring forward witnesses who know the facts.”

~Demosthenes 31.4

“he (sc. the mortgagee) had the house marked with stones (v. “ὄρος” 11) as well to the amount of 2000 drachmae,” ~D.31.4.

Romans 8:29: “Long ere this He knew our hearts, long ere this He claimed us (as a man claims property by setting his landmarks thereon) as those whom He should mould into the very likeness of His own Son, . . .”

~Arthur Way, Classics Scholar

ὁρίζω (horizō), determine, appoint; Heb. 4:7

***horizō* is connected with *horos*, boundary, and *horion*, region. Originally it meant to set bounds, bound, and hence to establish, determine.**

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 [established] their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,”

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

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

Ephesians 1:5 (NLT): “His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ.”

Ephesians 1:11 (NBV): “In Him we too were made His heritage, as foreordained according to His purpose, who works out everything in agreement with the design of His own will,”

Romans 8:28, “And we know that to them that love God all things work together for good, even to them that are called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:29, “For whom he foreknew, he also foreordained to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren:

Romans 8:30, “and whom he foreordained, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.” ASV

Rom. 8:29, “Because those of whom he had knowledge before they came into existence, were marked out by him to be made like his Son, so that he might be the first among a band of brothers:

Rom. 8:30, “And those who were marked out by him were named; and those who were named were given righteousness; and to those to whom he gave righteousness, in the same way he gave glory.”

~BBE

“ . . . we know that He brings together for good all things, for those who love God and are called according to His purpose. For God knew His own before creation, and also ordained that they should be spiritually shaped in the character of His Son, that He might be the first-born among a large family of brothers; and it is these, so appointed beforehand, whom He has also called. . . . ” (Rom. 8:28–29, RD)

“Praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, the Messiah, who through Him has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms, just as before the foundation of the world He appointed us through our union with Him to be holy and blameless in His sight in love, by designating (laying claim to) us to become His own adopted sons through Jesus the Messiah according to His pleasure and plan, resulting in praise for His glorious unmerited favor, from which He freely favored us in the beloved One” (Olson translation).

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ: even as He selected us who are in Him by imputed righteousness before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blemish before Him in love: by appointing us beforehand to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ unto Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved:”

~RD paraphrase translation