

## **2013 Basic Doctrines (05)** **(Predestination)**

**Request:** "I am confused about predestination that teaches that some are predestined to hell without a choice. Could you explain the biblical teaching on predestination?"

The Greek word for predestination is proorizo (pro) [Beforehand] and (horizo) [To mark out or determine].

Therefore proorizo means to predetermine or predestine. Wuest Greek Word Study says it means "to fix a boundary beforehand" (Pg.102).

Predestination is looking at salvation from God's side of the redemptive history of Jesus Christ.

<b>We will study four aspects of the doctrine of Predestination.</b>
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### **1. Proorizo (predestination) is found in the following four key passages of Scriptures.**

**NOTE:** Proorizo is mentioned five times with five different church age doctrines in these four passages.

(Acts 4:27-28) (vs.28)	The Plan of God (Acts 2:23-24)
(Rom.8:28-30) (vs.29)	Conformed to image of Son of God
(1 Cor.2:4-8) (vs.7)	Mystery wisdom of NC
(Eph.1:3-14) (vs.5)	Adoption as Son of God (vs.11) Royal heir / Inheritance

**Note that in each case, it is God who predestined.**

### **2. The Bible is clear that believers are predestined to eternal life, but it never suggests that unbelievers are predestined to lake of fire (Eph.1:3-14; Rev.20:11-15).**

All members of the human race are under judicial condemnation because of Adam's Original Sin (AOS) (John 3:16-18, 36; Rom.5:12-21).

The Church Age Believer (CAB) is no longer condemned because of personal faith in the gospel of grace salvation (Rom. 5:16-19; 8:1, 34-39; John 5:24) (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9).

Condemnation becomes personalized when a person dies having rejected the gospel of grace salvation just like predestination becomes personalized by believing the gospel (John 3:16-18).

God decreed to predestine all who believe the gospel of grace salvation and to leave just condemnation to those who reject it (2 Pet.3:9; 1 Tim.2:4-6; **4:10**; Heb.2:9).

### **3. God decreed and predestined Jesus Christ to represent redemptive history (John 1:29; 1 Tim.1:15; Titus 2:11, 14; 1 Pet.1:18-19; 1 John 2:2; 4:9-10).**

Predestination of the believer is the result of positive volition and faith in the gospel of grace salvation; while the unbeliever's eternal condemnation is the result of his / her negative volition and rejection of the gospel of grace salvation (John 3:16-18, 36; 20:31).

By being in union with Jesus Christ, the Church Age Believer (CAB) shares in His decreed and predestined redemptive history

(2 Cor.5:17-21; 2 Thess.2:13; Eph.1:4-6).

Every Church Age Believer (CAB) shares in the destiny of Jesus Christ which was predestined in eternity past (Eph.1:4-6; John 14:1-3; 2 Cor.5:8).

“Predestination is limited to the elect people and assures their present position and future destiny.”

(Basic Theology by Ryrie, 361)

- 4. Predestination could be compared to an airplane on the run-way ready for departure with a predetermined destination. When you board that plane, you enter into that plane’s predetermined destination (2 Cor.5:17; Eph.1:3-14/ note “in Him”).**

Omniscience is God’s ability to know everything knowable or foreknown. God’s foreknowledge is what God actually decreed as the Plan of God from the Eternal Life Conference (Eph.1:4; 1 cor.2:7).

Omniscience decreed foreknowledge and foreknowledge decreed predestination (Acts 2:23-24; Rom.8:28)  
There is no break in these four things (Rom.3:22-25).

The issue of predestination is not just between man and God but between man, Jesus Christ and God (John 14:6; 1 Tm.2:3-6; Heb.9:16; 12:24).

**Predestined:** “God has determined beforehand that those who believe in Christ will be adopted into His family and conformed to His Son (Rom.8:29). It involves a choice on His part (v.4); it is done in love (v.4); it is based on the good pleasure of His perfect will (vv.5, 9, 11); its purpose is to glorify God (v.14); but it does not relieve man of his responsibility to believe the gospel in order to bring to pass personally God’s predestination (v.13).” (Ryrie Bible on Eph.1:15)

**By being in union with Jesus Christ, the Church Age Believer (CAB) shares in the destiny of Jesus Christ that was predestined in eternity past (2 Cor.5:17; Eph.1:4-5; 1 Cor.12:13; Gal.3:27).**