

## ROMANS 8:29 PART 3

### REVIEW:

- Read, **8:28-30** let us do a quick review.
- Any idea of human merit is absent from these verses, what is being stressed is the absolute sovereignty of God in all His purposes and actions.

### CALLED: The GK word is Kletos/KLAY TOSS; adjective.

- (Henry Alford) Where by, before the foundations of the world was laid, God has decreed by His council, secret to man, to deliver from the curse and damnation, those whom He has chosen in Christ out of mankind and to bring them by Christ to everlasting salvation.

### PURPOSE:

- A setting forth. a setting forth of a thing, with certainty of fulfillment.

### FOREKNOW/FOREKNOWLEDGE:

- Foreknew: PRAAG-IN-OHS-KO. To know before, or to have knowledge beforehand.
- Used 7x
- Acts 2:23, (counsel) Rom. 8:29, 11:2, 1 Peter. 1:2, 20 (foreordained.)
- This foreknowledge is not idle, operates with power, action and resolve.
- The word "foreknow" has the aspect of intimacy attached to it.
- Rather than just meaning "to know the future in advance," the original biblical words imply an intimate, relational, and eternal affection.
  - Amos 3:2, Jer. 1:5, 1 Cor. 8:3, Gen. 18:19, Jer. 31:3, Duet. 7:7

### PREDIESTINATE:

- Pro-or-idzo. (pro= beforehand & boundaries)
- A verb meaning to mark out beforehand the boundaries or limits of a place or thing, to pre-determine. Acts 17:26
- The simple verb of this GK word is horizo, from which we get our word horizon.
- Here the saint is destined for conformity to Christ, sanctification.
- Used 6x in N.T. 4x predestinate, 1 determine before, 1 ordain.
  - Here, and 30, Acts 4:28, 1 Cor. 2:7, Eph. 1:5, 1:11

### CONFORMED: (Con= together with, & Form.)

- To render like, to bring to the same form, having the same form as another.
- It does not mean a superficial likeness or shallow surfacy conformity to a form,
- it means an inward likeness and essence resulting in an outward expression of an inward essence, or reality, character or nature.

- This likeness is a deep genuine resemblance brought out and born due to our kindred or family heredity.
- The outward conforming of the inward Christ.
- Let me add, being conformed to Christ's image does not mean that we are to become gods, we will not become gods or sons in the sense that the only begotten One is the Eternal God the Son.
- Our relationship to the Father, to the Son, to the Holy Spirit is through adoption.

### **IMAGE:**

- **Eikon**: a derived likeness. A likeness taken from something else.
- Image is more than a mere likeness; it is a derived likeness that is a likeness that comes to us directly from the object we resemble.
- This likeness is not accidental or coincidental, it is derived directly from the source,
- Like a child's likeness may come directly from the parent.
- Used 5x, all with similar reference, all by Paul.
  - **Col. 3:10**, Col. 1:15, 2 Cor. 3:18, 2 Cor. 4:4.
- Man was originally made in the image of God, but that perfect image became marred and defaced by sin.
- Now God's purpose has not expired or strayed but it continues without fail, for the man in Christ, it is working to conform him to Christ's image.
- **We are all to be with unveiled face reflecting as in a mirror the glory of God, being transformed into the same image... that of Christ.**
- **This is a great privilege which nothing earthly can compare. Vs. 18.**

### **FIRSTBORN:**

- Conformity to Christ's image and glorification, which is of the utmost importance, yet it is not the final, the climax of our pilgrimage or purpose.
- In this verse God reveals the final end, the final good to which all God's purposes aim;
- *"That Jesus might be glorified by being set forth as the Firstborn among many brothers."*
- **The word Firstborn**; does not refer to His birth or His natural generation, but rather to "priority," dignity, and supremacy.
- **Firstborn. 6x...** Col. 1:15, 18, Heb. 1:6, 12:23, Rev. 1:5 and here.
- The "first-born is always a position of preeminence. He was always in this very special position of privilege and unusual respect had to be paid to him.
- **Firstborn**; reflects on the priority and the supremacy of Christ.
- He having the highest rank, authority and importance, being "first, #1, above and beyond all others, infinite. **Col 1:18**
- It marks out His Kinship with us, while yet preserving His own unique preeminence.

- The ultimate purpose of our salvation is the glory of the Son of God. This is the ultimate end and object of salvation.
- The pinnacle of all Christian, biblical teaching concerning salvation is God's glory.
- It is not us that are the pinnacle of importance, beauty or glory but Christ.
- It is His preeminence which is all important, His praise and glory are the final aim.
- The Divine purpose has as its great object the glory of the Son of God.
- God's plan for those He foreknew was set before the foundation of the world, that Christ might be the "first-born" among many brethren. Everything in between leads to this end.
- God's plan and purpose was to glorify Himself by having Jesus as the First-born of an enormous, unnumberable family, all in His image, living to the glory of God and doing His will.
  - JN. 17:24, "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.
  - Jn. 12:24, Isa. 53:11, Eph. 1:10-12
- Also notice in this phrase the term, "brethren." This term points to family resemblance, likeness. (Schwan's man)
- Our relationship to Christ as our elder Brother is manifested as true, by our conformity to Him.
- If my life has not changed or changing, I may have no valid claim or right to His name, "Christian."

## **CONCLUSION.**

- We must understand this is our predestined purpose, laid out in the heart of God in eternity past. (Vs. 28)
- See our life line here. It runs from eternity past to eternity future; it is set laid out by the will and purpose of God.
- From a long off past love, the love of God for us in foreknowledge, to God's infinite love for us in our eternal glorification.
  - 2 Tim. 1:9. who has saved us and called *us* with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,
- We are secure in the salvation God has secured for us. (Jn. 6:44, Jn. 10:28) and sealed in the blood of the Lamb.
- The question for me now is, am I partnering with God for the fulfilling of His purpose in my life?
- Am I being conformed to the image of Christ, am I growing in Christ, being Christ like?
  - What assurance do I have that I am among the saved? .... Because I am being conformed to the image of the Son. I am growing in my to resembling Jesus.

- **If I neglect this, if I am not in the process of sanctification, dying to self, bearing a growing resemblance to Christ, then my salvation is in question.**
- **For God has chosen us in Christ that we should be holy.**
  - **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**
- **We are so humanly, earthly, self-minded. Being so consumed with our own little kingdom and cares.**
- **God will supply all our need in His time and in His way, but we so easily lose sight of the glory of this unequaled privilege, to be conformed to the image of the Son.**
- **The grand purpose behind it all is God's pleasure and His glory, and God's delight in surrounding His Son with many brethren standing with His image, doing the Father's will. All making up the innumerable family of God.**

**Heb. 2:10-13.** For it was fitting for Him, for whom *are* all things and by whom *are* all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup> For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified *are* all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, <sup>12</sup> saying: "I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly, I will sing praise to You." <sup>13</sup> And again: "I will put My trust in Him." And again: "Here am I and the children whom God has given Me."

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