

FOREKNOWLEDGE & PREDESTINATION

Cecil duCille

Now we look at Romans:

8:28 *"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."*

Now some of us don't know that all things work together for good. The only difference between those who know and those who don't know, is that some who don't know grumble when they are hit and some who know rejoice when they get hit. Every soul here has problems sometimes. And some of us have them all the time. But some people know that their problems are deliberately designed by God to lift them into a higher realm. Others don't know. And that's the difference between the person who can rejoice over problems or whatever happens and the one who cannot rejoice. Whether you do or you don't know, all things work together for good to you.

Now somebody may say, "There is a qualifying phrase here, '*to them that love God*,'" But there is a qualifying phrase to that qualifying phrase, "*to them who are the called according to his purpose*". So from the time God called you, even before you were justified, all things began to work together for good to you. Before you were justified. Then, like the bull, outside of the Tabernacle, when those men threw the rope over him and begin to haul it towards the gate of the Tabernacle. All things began to work together for good and there you were cursing and saying, "Oh I have the worse luck. Why did it have to happen to me?" And God is very much pleased with the progress.

So we go to Romans 8 verse 29:

8:29 *"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."*

So Brother duCille you start preaching predestination now. Oh yes,

predestination to be saved;

predestination to be sacrificed;

predestination to be glorified;

predestination to BE JUST LIKE JESUS CHRIST.

THAT'S YOUR (OUR) PREDESTINY.

And you ask yourself the question, “So then the other poor guy out there, who is lost, is not predestined at all? He is lost and therefore he was predestinated for hell?” **It is a fallacy.** Look who were predestined.

*Romans 8:29 “For **WHOM HE DID FOREKNOW, HE ALSO DID PREDESTINATE** to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.”*

Okay, in verse 30:

*8:30 “Moreover **WHOM HE DID PREDESTINATE, THEM HE ALSO CALLED.**”*

Have you ever heard anybody boasting about his call? Well, you are called before you are saved. For them whom he called, what did he do to them? **HE JUSTIFIED THEM.** He made them just as if they had never sinned. When did that happen? When you accepted the call. But let’s search the Scriptures and see who God has called. You know **who God called? Everybody.**

Turn your Bibles to John 1:1:

1:1 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

Verse 8 and 9 says,

1:8 “He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.”

And so we see the words “light”, “Word” and “Jesus” are synonymous. Now verse 9,

1:9 “That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.”

Isn’t that a peculiar phrase? **Did you ever think of it that no human being can go to hell unless he has met Jesus and rejected Him?** Did it ever occur to you that no human being could go to hell unless he had rejected Jesus? **Did it ever occur to you that no human can ever go to heaven unless he has accepted Jesus?**

Turn your Bibles to John 3:17,

3:17 “For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

3:18 “He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

3:19 “And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.”

What is the condemnation? That lightthe same light we read about in John 1, the Word, Jesushas come into the world and men reject Him.

But if a thing has never been presented to you how could you reject it? Don't you see? Jesus stands at the crossroads of all humanity. Here we find millions and millions of people being born without knowing Jesus. They have never heard of Him, never got to know Him, and yet they die. Some heard about Him but cursed Brother Noah and then died in the flood. Some never heard about Him, but there's a consciousness that God has planted in their hearts. Even the heathen who said that somewhere there was something, but then died. God could not allow them to stay in hell. God had to get a man who could go down to hell and come out alive.

Many people ask,

“WHY DID JESUS HAVE TO DIE?”

“WHY DID HE HAVE TO GO TO HELL?”

This is the why of it. Jesus had to go to hell basically to save those who were in hell. Because they did not have the Christ; because they did not hear of Jesus then they were not, and they could not be condemned. God in His justice could not send people to hell and let them stay in hell because they didn't hear. No sir. God took all the responsibility upon Himself. Do you know it is God's responsibility to reveal Himself to you? Do you know that all of your responsibility lies in the area of receiving or accepting that which God gives? Do you know every sinner out there must have a revelation of Jesus Christ before he can go to hell? So what did God do? We read in I Peter 3:19 that Jesus Christ went down to hell and preached to the spirits that were in hell.

I Peter 3:19 “By which also he (Jesus) went and preached unto the spirits in prison;

3:20 “Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.”

Eight souls saved by water and millions saved by fire. They went down to hell but Jesus went down there also and preached to them. In Chapter 4, verse 6 it is repeated again.

I Peter 4:6 “For for this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.”

So you see that God could not allow any human being to go to hell without having rejected Jesus. Now when you are preaching to people you must have this consciousness and this understanding. When you preach to a man, that the man does not have to say, “Yes, I accept Jesus: at that time. But you are putting that man in a position that between that time and his death he's going to meet Jesus face to face and have to say, “Yes I accept Him”. And did you know what happens? You, the preacher, comes right before him at the

moment of death. Did you know that the witness that you give to a human being will last with him forever, until he reaches the end of life and that witness will come back to him just as powerful as you gave it. This is why we must obey the Spirit. **Don't look for results.** What about Brother Noah? He more than likely thought that he had no results. Noah must have been the greatest evangelist in all the world. Noah's witness saved millions of people and we'll never know how many until we reach heaven and begin to look up the records. He thought his preaching was in vain but God said, "Preach" and he just kept preaching. He visibly saved eight of them and he thought, "Well, Lord Jesus when I get to heaven my crown will only have eight little stars." Then he was surprised. And you also are going to be very surprised. That's why it's so absolutely necessary to remain in the perfect will of God. I'll tell you something about that.

You are working with spirits that are working in conjunction with you. Now there are certain things that you can do and spirits cannot do it. Spirits cannot preach the gospel. I met a group of people who were asking angels to tell them Scriptures and they ran right off the line. Never ask an angel to tell you a Scripture. If God gives him a Scripture to give you and he gives it to you, that's fine. But he doesn't know as much as you in the gospel. Did you know that? As Brother Peter said here, in Chapter 1 of I Peter: "*the angels are inquiring about the message that God is giving you, the Church.*" He speaks about the prophets having received this great message but having to preach in the dark because they did not know what they were preaching. Yet they weren't preaching to the people who then were, they were preaching to us, who weren't yet born. Would you like a job like that? Having to preach to a congregation who isn't yet born? But this is what is happening. And so in verse 12 it says,

I Peter 1:12 "Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, BUT UNTO US they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the ANGELS DESIRE TO LOOK INTO."

The things of God are being revealed to the Church. The revelation of the Spirit is to the Church and not to the angels. The worse part about it – or the best part about it – is that we have the Church divided into two. One part of the Church is in the Spirit, in the heavenlies with Jesus and another part of the Church (the militant Church) must meet the devil and fight him face to face on earth. The heavenly people cannot fight the devil.

(2) GOD IS FLATTENING & STRETCHING US

I went down to the Ford factory and no place reminded me of hell more than that foundry where they smelt the metal. And we walked along, watching

the metal being changed, and I can imagine if I were that metal I would be complaining all the way. They put it in that terrible furnace and it was glowing so brightly that you couldn't look at it. And then they began to push it through rollers. One roller flattened it a little and I thought it was flat, but the other roller flattened it again. And they kept on stretching and flattening that one small piece of metal until it was 3,000 feet long. From about 20 feet they flattened it and stretched it to 3,000 feet. And I said, "Lord, isn't this what God is doing to us?" Some of the metal complained so badly that they had to discard it. It just wasn't up to the mark. They had to take it off and throw it away. May God help us to realize that the circumstances of life which beat us, the one that hit us hardest, these are the things which are transforming us into the image of Christ. Every one of us has something that we hate. We would almost prefer to die than for some things to happen to us. Sometimes these are the things that happen to us.

(3) THEY WERE EATING A BUSH

One of the things that I feared most was my family being in want. When God sent me out on the mission field, I had no church behind me, no congregation behind me, He commanded me to give up my profession and commanded me to go out there and preach to a people who I didn't even know. The area was so poor that I lived with people who never had a meal for a day. They would eat the bush outside. They would boil a bush tea and they would take sugar (sugar was easy to get because it is a sugar country) and give it to the baby with the bush. That is what the baby and the people lived on. We had to weed a field of about 10 acres with a hand hoe. There we were weeding all day, so thirsty and so hungry that about 2 o'clock we prayed that God would send some food. Then we looked around the rocks and we saw a little tray coming. It was a sister who said the Lord told her to bring water and food. And this is how those people lived. And I'm telling you they really got a faith in God that was above the faith of those people who had something. They would eat one little dumpling and a little coconut oil for all day. We would come home in the night and go off to service when we got home. God taught me to live with those people to learn what it was to really trust God and to know Him.

(4) IN THE CEILING

Romans 8:4 "That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

God is not talking about carnal actions, for you can do carnal actions and not be carnal minded. For example, you can look after your children but

you're not obsessed in your mind with it, Jesus is still first. You must love your children but if you put them before Jesus then God is going to catch up with you. So, *"to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."* Why? Because the carnal mind does not operate under the law of God. For the law of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. Come let's see if we can understand it.

There was a time in my life when I didn't understand this. I began to fast and pray but I really didn't want to live. I just didn't want to live in this world; I wanted to be with Jesus; I wanted to go home. As a young Christian, I saw no work for me here. I felt that someone else could preach salvation. In other words, my soul was so longing after God that I hated the world. I stopped eating for 21 days. I was crying to God,

"God I want all of you now.

"I want to be perfect.

"I want to be like Enoch.

"I want to be like Elijah."

And when I broke the fast, on the 21st day, I felt as though I had committed a sin. And so I went back on this fast for three more days with total fasting, not eating or drinking water. And in these three days as my soul cried out for God, I was kneeling down praying and my head began to knock against something. It was like I was far gone and then I gradually begin to come to the realization that my forehead was knocking on something. "Why is my forehead knocking on something if I'm kneeling down on the floor at my bed?" And then I became frightened. I opened my eyes and where do you think I was? In the ceiling. God had so permeated my mind that the natural law let loose of me and I was in the ceiling, knocking my head on the ceiling. I tell you there was never a man more frightened than I was. I came out of the Spirit immediately. I was so frightened that when I opened my eyes again, I was back on the floor. And for years I wouldn't tell anybody. You see because I heard of levitation and I know that the moment you tell somebody they're going to say, "That is levitation." But it's not levitation in the devil's way. It's levitation in the Spirit and I understood what happened to Enoch. When you are in a certain condition in the Spirit, whatever you desire from God, it happens. If you desire to go and be with Him forever, that's it. HE would take you. But it is not God's perfect will for you. God's perfect will for you is that you should overcome the devil. For God has never had a man overcome the devil. Jesus did it and He's waiting for us to do it. That ye might be conformed to the image of His Son.

