

God's Golden Chain of Salvation: Foreknowledge

Key Scriptures

Romans 8:28-30 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. ³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

John 6:44 "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

Acts 13:48 Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.

2 Timothy 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,

Acts 2:23 this man, who was handed over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you executed by nailing him to a cross at the hands of Gentiles.

(The 7 passages that use Foreknow: Verb Acts 26:5; Rom 8:29; 11:2; 1 Pet 1:20; 2 Pet 3:17; Noun Act 2:23; 1 Peter 1:2)

Key Point:

Salvation is of God from beginning to end.

TALK IT OVER

Start talking: Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- What are your favorite books or movies which have going to the future/knowing the future as a central theme?

Start thinking. Ask questions to get your group thinking.

- Why do you think that out of 8 chapters of teaching, Paul has only given us four commands so far? (Rom 6:11,12,13,19)
What does this tell you about the importance of having a strong understanding of who you are in Christ?
- Why do you think it is important to understand that the "golden chain" (the five major elements in God's plan of salvation) are initiated by God's purpose? (Romans 8:28, 2 Timothy 1:9)
- What is the major problem with the view that Romans 8:29 is teaching that God foresaw who would believe the gospel, and chose them to be saved? (John 6:44, Eph 2:1-2, 1 Cor 2:14, Rom 8:7, 2 Cor 4:4 Eph 1:4-12)

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Was there anything from Sunday's message you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?
- Before Sunday's message, what was your understanding of the foreknowledge of God? Did your view change after the message? Why or why not?
- Kyle concluded that Romans 8:29 refers to God knowing us and lovingly engaging us in a relationship. How do you understand foreknowledge in Romans 8:29?

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week!

- This week, look up the 7 passages that speak about God's foreknowledge and think about what they are saying.

Prayer Requests. It may be helpful to pray the scriptures back to God.

-
-
-