

## **GOD'S GRACE**

### **from the beginning**

God is eternal. He is before all things and knows all things. It is therefore in His power to predetermine the course of His own creation. It is evident from scriptures that He has established a plan by His infinite wisdom. He has determined to reveal His great kindness both now and in the ages to come.

Whether God has predestined the fate of every individual is a controversial matter that has no real merit. It would be easy to ignorantly blame our failures on Him for predestinating us to do so. We cannot shirk our moral responsibility. It should be understood that grace has been predetermined before the foundation of the earth upon a people God knew beforehand in Christ that would respond in faith to the Gospel. His foreknowledge does not forfeit our accountability to Him.

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“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.” [Romans 8:29](#)

“elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ, grace to you and peace be multiplied.” [1 Peter 1:3](#)

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A predetermined grace would be bestowed upon a fore known people. These intended blessing would be spiritual in nature. They would include 1) a holy standing before God without any blame, 2) the rights as sons of God, 3) complete acceptance in the heavenlies through Christ, 4) redemption from all evil and loss, 5) access to forgiveness through the blood of Jesus, 6) wisdom of the ages, 7) a wonderful inheritance, 8) the Holy Spirit as a down payment of more to come.

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“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, 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, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth-- in Him. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth,

the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory. “ [Ephesians 1:3-14](#)”

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Every grace would have Jesus as its source and center. He is the sole means by which grace and not just mercy could be imparted from a holy God to sinners. Truly grace came by Jesus. It is so complimentary to know that we have been thought of and planned for before we even existed. Let us continue on to know this most loving God.

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