Key Words of the Christian Life

Predestination: God's Plan for His Own

Immanuel Baptist Church 2017

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14. Predestination: God's Plan for His Own

- A. What Does It Mean?
- **B.** How Does It Work?
- C. What Does It Mean Today?

Predestination...Defined

According to....

Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Dictionary, it is the Biblical teaching that declares the sovereignty of God over human beings in such a way that the freedom of the human will is also preserved.

Two Major Concepts:

- God has foreknown and predestined the course of human history and the lives of individuals.
- 2. God's predestination of human events does not eliminate human choice.

Two Major Concepts:

The first view is known as <u>Calvinism</u>. It holds that God offers irresistible grace to those whom He "elects" to save.

The second view is known as <u>Arminianism</u>. It insists that God's grace can be resisted by man through free choice.

TULIP

- 1. Total Depravity
- 2. Unconditional Election
- 3. Limited Atonement
- 4. Irresistible Grace
- 5. Perseverance of the Saints

1. Total Depravity

Calvinists argued that sin affects every aspect of man, including his will. Based on Romans 3:23, Southern Baptists affirm that humans are sinners by nature and choice, and reject views that God is responsible for human sin.

2. Unconditional Election

Followers of Calvin argue that God decreed from eternity to elect some to salvation.

Southern Baptist's view is that it is God's revealed will for all people to experience salvation based on verses such as

2 Peter 3:9 and 1 Timothy 2:4.

3. Limited Atonement

Arminians *correctly* concluded that Christ died for all men based on Scriptures such as 1 John 2:2 and John 3:16.

Calvinists countered with the assertion that Christ died only for those who were chosen for salvation.

4. Irresistible Grace

Arminians concluded that men could resist God's grace.

Calvinists disagreed saying that ultimately God's grace is irresistible and that human will is not exercised in conversion.

5. Perseverance of the Saints Calvinists concluded that God preserves true believers from falling away from the faith. Based on texts such as John 10:28, Southern Baptists believe in the eternal security of the believer as well. The BF&M states "All true believers endure to the end, and will never fall away."

Calvinists are welcome to worship here but must know that we follow Jesus whose mission was "to seek and save what was lost" according to Luke 19:10. However, there are differences in our views on the Bible.

We are followers of Jesus Christ first, last and always.