

50 POSITIONAL TRUTHS-#3: Predestined

It is very important for every believer to understand the difference between his *standing* and his *state*. A believer's standing before God is his eternal position in God whereas his state deals with his temporal life with God which is always in flux. The Christian's position (standing, positional truth) is one of perfection—it cannot change: it cannot be diminished or improved. Perfect is perfect. The believer's standing is permanent. He possesses a permanent relationship with God regardless of where he is experientially.

Positional truth is 1) not an experience, 2) not progressive—cannot be improved in time, 3) is not related to human merit or ability, 4) it cannot be changed by God, man, or angels—it is eternal in nature; and 5) it is not obtained gradually as you grow in grace.

Positional truth:

#3 Predestined. God in His foreknowledge foresaw those who would respond to His offer of salvation and actively predestined them. Though election and predestination are similar in meaning, they may perhaps be distinguished in this manner: in election God determined to save those who accept his Son and the proffered salvation; and in predestination He has resolved to effectively accomplish that purpose. Predestination was accomplished in eternity past and thus there is nothing a believer can do in time to change that fact. God's foreknowledge and predestination is perfect. God predestined every believer and that fact cannot be changed. Predestination extends not only to believing in Jesus Christ at the point of salvation but to ultimate conformity to the image of Jesus Christ in eternity future. Now that is security!

Ephesians 1:5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,

Ephesians 1:11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, **having been predestined** according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will,

Romans 8:29 For those whom He foreknew, **He also predestined** to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;³⁰ and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified [in God's mind we are already glorified with Him after our temporal lives—it is already done.)

May Yahweh bless you, and keep you;
May Yahweh make His face shine on you, And be gracious to you;
May Yahweh lift up His countenance on you, And give you peace.' (Num 6:24-26)

In Yahweh
Pastor Don