



Cherreguine Bible Doctrine Ministries

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ELECTION & OMNISCIENT OF GOD

The divine decree is a basic category of biblical theology –a very important doctrine in which the majority of believers are basically ignorant. The divine decree vested solely with the will of God what His creation should be. God alone decided in eternity past what human beings would be like –we would be rational beings with free will volition. Because God cannot contradict His own nature (the essence and attributes of God) necessitated His willingness to provide the highest and the best for mankind.

When God created man (Adam)- He created the highest and the best compatible with His perfect plan. Adam was created perfect in body, soul and spirit –and put him in a perfect environment.

The best and perfect that man has received in creation has been lost through the fall and because of that, the perfect God who created mankind now condemns us. Nevertheless, God still wills the highest and the best for mankind. With our free will, we may miss some or all of these great and best things. The best things can come only from God and our consolation is that it is still available.

We have to understand the difference between the omniscience and the perfect foreknowledge of God. Foreknowledge is more limited in scope than omniscience but omniscience knows both the actual and the possible. Foreknowledge includes the actual only and is related to the redeemed only.

The omniscience of God knows all that would have been involved had He adopted any one of an infinite number of plans of action. He also knows all the consequences had man chosen a different course of action within the realm of his own volition.

Foreknowledge refers only to things, which God did decree or adopt as the plan of God – but things related only to the children of God. Only the decree of God establishes the certainty or reality. Only reality can be foreknown –nothing can be foreknown until first decreed. Events cannot occur without being decreed by God to occur.

God's decrees never originate from His foreknowledge. Although the omniscience, the decree and the foreknowledge of God exist simultaneously in the mind of God, they must be separated into a logical sequence for us to understand them.

First come omniscience, then the decree, then and the foreknowledge. The divine decree is based on omniscience; foreknowledge is based on the decree. Election is the exclusive plan of God for believers. All the elect are believers. All the Church Age believers are elect members of the royal family of God.

Election is God's complete agreement with His own foreknowledge. God simply agrees with the Truth in Himself (foreknowledge) and puts a stamp of approval (election) upon what He

decreed [1 Peter 1:2]. God elected or chose believers where He alone knows ahead of time (before it occur) that if given free will, they would freely choose to believe in Christ.

Therefore, God decreed that such an act of faith would actually occur and that God agreed not only that their positive volition to the Gospel and Bible doctrines would occur at a certain point in time- and that all the blessing of salvation would be their eternal possessions [Ephesians 1:4, 2 Thessalonians 2:13].

Election is declared through God's perfect foreknowledge and election is the function of predestination.