

## CouplesInBloom.com – Predestinate Your Beloved

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“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: according as he has chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: **having predestinated us unto the adoption** of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he has **made us accepted (literally graced) in the beloved.**” ⇒ Ephesians 1:3-6.

By the way: do not trip over “predestination.” God knows our future without violating our free will. This non-causational foreknowledge is something God alone can do. People struggle a lot with predestination because it exposes their limitation. It is how God knew all about Jeremiah the prophet before he was formed in his mother’s womb ⇒ Jeremiah 1:5. Refusing to humbly accept this powerful truth about God leads to cultic theology which violates God’s declaration of being the only eternally existent one ⇒ Exodus 3:14.

Now, back on topic: this word **predestinated** comes from two root words: **before** and **horizon**. In other words, ‘**this was a done deal before it began; end of story.**’ It is such a strong statement; the epitome of authority. *We*, being on the receiving end, are blessed very deeply by predestination because it comes with good news / the Gospel. **Jump up and down forever Hallelujah, for cryin’ out loud; it doesn’t get any better than this!** Being undeservedly loved (graced) as a bride by the only God destroys everything else!

More details from Ephesians 1 ⇒ “**blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ**”... and some people *still* somehow wonder why hell is forever after only sinning for 70 years or so (because they self-centeredly use the pathetic scale of human thoughts instead of eternal truth). More details from Ephesians 1 ⇒ “**according as he has chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love**”... do not get lost here; make the effort to follow this through:

God wanted to be loved by free will choice (as we do, being made in His image). To create such beings made them vulnerable to sin, so He also created a way to save them (*enter Jesus, stage center*). Responders (a.k.a. Christians) to His Holy-Spirit-promoted pre-paid offer receive eternal life starting on earth. It’s all about Him, beginning to end... thus requiring eternity to thank Him (which happens to be pure bliss for us!). His love **refuses to stop giving!!!** It even makes us “**holy and without blame**”!... all from His love!

Now **predestinate your beloved** ⇒ Ephesians 1:4-5 by loving like God loves: before the “foundation of the world” (*literally* “conception of the arrangement”) with them (v.4), predestinate (*literally* “limit in advance”) them to be loved by you, and not hated. You do **not have God’s non-causational foreknowledge, but you do have His love** ⇒ Ephesians 5:24-27. Many are called, but few are chosen ⇒ Matthew 22:1-14; this parable teaches us to **not refuse** to wear wedding garments provided by the wedding host. God loved Jacob and hated Esau ⇒ Malachi 1:2-4 as both were called but **their responses** did the choosing.

Concerning **your** beloved, **your job** is to call them into predestination: communicate to them **your covenant of love for them** ‘**is a done deal before it began; end of story!!**’ ♥