

# Understanding the Doctrine of Predestination

1. Romans 8:28-29; Eph. 1:4-5, 11; Rev. 17:8

A. What is Predestination?

B. Where it came from?

C. Who believes it today?

} See Handout

Note! The word “Predestination” is found only 4 times in the Bible: twice in Romans and twice in Ephesians.

2. The misunderstanding in this doctrine is that it is individuals who are predestined in these scriptures. In reality it is the church collectively that is in reference here.

3. This is confirmed by the multiple use of plural pronouns in these verses. See Romans 8:28-39. Compare with Romans 9:1-3 also see Ephesians 1:3-12 and compare with Ephesians 3:2-5.

4. Scriptures that prove it is God’s will that all men be saved. (These verses refute the Calvinistic doctrine that we’re predetermined to be saved or lost from birth.) 1 Timothy 2:4, II Peter 3:9, Acts 17:25, 27, 30, Matthew 11:28, John 3:15-18.

5. Scriptures that prove that anyone can be lost, even individuals who are presently saved. (These verses refute the doctrine of eternal security...once saved always saved, a milder form of the doctrine of predestination.) II Peter 2:20-22, Romans 11:21-22, 1 Corinthians 9:27, Revelation 2:4-5, Revelation 2:14-16, Revelation 3:15-16.

6. Understanding “The Book of Life from the Foundation of the World”. Revelation 17:8, this verse refers to The Book of Life and not to the individual’s name that is from the foundation of the world. See Revelation 3:5, Ex. 32:32-33