

BEFORE CREATION

ROMANS 8:29

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: The Lord does not preordain anyone to be lost. However, the unbeliever is permitted to suffer the consequence of his choice of sin. (I Peter 1:8) Spiros Zodhiates, The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament, p. 1216.

GOD FORKNEW YOU. “The salvation of every believer is known and determined in the mind of God before its realization in time.” Spiros Zodhiates, The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament, p. 1216. “It is this knowledge of the future among other things that distinguishes God from the false gods.” Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary, 594. (**Romans 8:29, Acts 2:22, 23, John 1:47-49, fn 1:47-49, Mark 14:27-31, 66-72, I John 3:20, I Peter 1:1, 2, 20, fn 1:20**) *How does foreknowledge about you before creation strengthen your faith?*

GOD PREDESTINED YOU. “...predestination is the effective carrying out of God’s will in the case of those who are foreordained to salvation.” Kenneth S. Wuest, Word Studies in the New Testament, Volume I (Romans), pp. 144, 145. (**Romans 8:29, fn 8:29, 30, Ephesians 1:5, 11, fn 1:5, Jeremiah 1:5, fn 1:5[1st], fn 1:5[2nd], John 6:37, John 15:16, Acts 17:24-27, fn 17:27, 28**) *If you were predestined for salvation, why did Jesus have to die for you?*

GOD PLANNED FOR YOU TO HAVE JESUS, the one who is to be preeminent (firstborn) in your life! Jesus’ life is the pattern that shapes your life. God’s goal of your salvation is for you to be transformed into the very likeness of Christ—into His image. (**Romans 8:29, fn 8:29, I John 3:1-3, fn 3:2, 3, II Corinthians 5:17, fn 5:17, II Corinthians 3:18, fn 3:18, Colossians 1:15, 16, fn 1:15, 16, Colossians 2:9, 10, fn 2:10**) *Who are you to pattern your life after? How can you do this?*

Check up—Are you praying with your spouse and your family? Group—Pray for personal requests and bond together by fellowshiping together.