

Predestination and Election:

2 Tim 3:16 All scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

Two separate views:

1. We are elect according to God's sovereign choice irrespective of his foreknowledge. Meaning he chose some for eternal salvation and left the others for eternal damnation. They had no choice in the matter. No saving grace was offered to them.

2. Elect according to the foreknowledge of God meaning God sovereignly chose to choose those who would respond to God's offer of grace that brings salvation to all by the work that was already finished in Christ for them before the foundations of the world but only applicable to those who choose to receive it by faith as a gift from God not because of merit or works.

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God **that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men.**

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God:

1 Pet 1:2 **Elect according to the foreknowledge of God** the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

Rev 13:8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of **the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.**

Acts 2:23 Him, being delivered by the **determinate counsel and foreknowledge** of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

Eph 1:4 According as he hath **chosen us in him** before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Col 2:13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

Eph 2:5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

The extreme position of foreknowledge would be to say it all depends upon your choice alone. If God didn't choose us first we wouldn't even have a choice.

John 6:44 tells us, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day."

It is only because God first loved us that we could love him at all.

1 John 4:9 We love him, because he first loved us.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that **whosoever believeth** in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

However according to the scriptures God's choice on who he predestines is based on his foreknowledge of who would believe in Jesus.

Romans 8:29 tells us, "For whom he did **foreknow**, he also did **predestinate** [to be] conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."

In addition we know that no one can come to Jesus except the Father draw him but the Father is not going to draw those he knows will not believe. However according to the scripture this was not because God was willing that they should perish but that they would choose to repent.

2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, **not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.**

Act 17:30 tells us, "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now **commandeth all men every where to repent:**"

Act 17:31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by [that] man whom he hath ordained; [whereof] he hath given assurance unto all [men], in that he hath raised him from the dead.

John 6:36-40 But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not. All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 12:32-33 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will **draw all men** unto me. This he said, signifying what death he should die.

The **grace of God that bringeth salvation appeared to all** but is only applicable to those who chose to believe and based on that choice that was freely offered to them they received the free gift of salvation or rejected it. Not because God foreordained them to reject it but foreordained them to make a choice and he knew what choice they would make.

Jos 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, **choose you this day whom ye will serve**; whether the gods which your fathers served that [were] on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Luke 11:23 **He that is not with me is against me:** and he that gathereth not with me scattereth.

In conclusion view number 1 cannot be biblically supported. God did not predestine or elect anyone without his foreknowledge or without giving them a choice. Rather God predestined and elected **based on his foreknowledge** of the grace that brings salvation that was freely offered to all the world when all men who he already knew would be dead in their trespasses and sins could freely receive the free gift of salvation or reject it. We are therefore left with only view number 2 which is biblically supported and rightly divided throughout scripture.

Rev 22:17 ¶ And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And **whosoever will**, let him take the water of life freely.