

“DOES GOD’S FOREKNOWLEDGE MEAN FOREORDINATION?”

- A. INTRODUCTION TO GOD’S SOVEREIGNTY & MAN’S RESPONSIBILITY
- B. IS MANKIND TOTALLY DEPRAVED?
- C. IS SAVING FAITH GOD’S GIFT TO THE ELECT?
- D. WHAT DOES GOD’S SOVEREIGNTY MEAN?
- E. WHAT DOES GOD’S OMNISCIENCE MEAN?

1. Calvinist Doctrine on God’s Omniscience & Foreknowledge

a) Concerning God’s omniscience, Calvinism teaches that God _____ everything because He first _____ everything. Thus, God only knows the future _____ of people because He _____ them.

** Biblically, do God’s acts (decree/s) flow from His attributes or vice-versa?*

** How does the Calvinist view ironically agree with the neo-Arminian, Open Theist view?*

** What is the divinely revealed logical order of God’s foreknowledge, election, and predestination?*

b) Concerning God’s foreknowledge, Calvinism teaches that God’s foreknowledge is _____. This means that His foreknowledge is practically synonymous with His _____.

** What do they base this conclusion on? (Heb. *yada*; Jer. 1:4-5, 7; Hos. 13:4-5; Amos 3:2; Matt. 7:23)*

2. The Biblical Balance on God’s Omniscience & Foreknowledge

a) Foreknowledge seen to be prior-knowledge from the biblical passages using *proginosko* and *prognosis*...

1) Acts 26:5 (*proginōskō*)

2) Acts 2:23 (*prognōsis*)

3) 1 Peter 1:2 (*prognōsis*)

4) 1 Peter 1:20 (*proginōskō*)

5) 2 Peter 3:17 (*proginōskō*)

6) Romans 8:29 (*proginōskō*)

7) Romans 11:2 (*proginōskō*)

** Do extrabiblical occurrences of proginōskō and prognōsis mean “prior knowledge”?*

b) Though the Bible nowhere explicitly states that God elected certain people on the basis of foreseen faith, this deduction can be scripturally supported based on the following evidence:

1) Since God foreknew men’s _____ choices to _____ and determined His eternal plan accordingly (Gen. 45:1-8 cf. 50:20; Rev. 13:8), He could also have foreknown men’s _____ choices to _____ in Christ and factored that into His plan.

2) In other areas not specifically addressing individual salvation, God foreknows the positive exercise of people’s volitions in the future and has made _____ of His plans for the future based on their foreseen faith, repentance, and obedience. (Gen. 18:17-19; Jer. 30:7-9; 50:4-5; Hosea 3:5; etc.)

** What can you learn from all of this?*