PREDESTINATION and FREE WILL Pt. 4: CHOICE, FREE WILL, JESUS DIED FOR SOME, WHO GOD HATES

The false teaching that there is no free will uses the next passage of scripture to say that no one was seeking God and so naturally that must mean that He makes us serve Him because He chooses and not us:

Romans 3:11 - There is none that understandeth (no one is truly wise) there is none that seeketh after God.

This passage of Scripture is quoted from the Old Testament, Psalms 14:1-3. It was a Psalm written by King David. King David was a man after God's own heart. That means that he was a man that followed God and loved God and lived an obedient life and righteous life. Even though he sinned, he repented and got things right with God. King David was not a people pleaser like King Saul had been. King David was a God pleaser.

So we know that this verse cannot possibly mean that no one sought God because we know that the author of this Psalm, King David, did seek God. He sought God because he was taught God's law and grew up serving Him. As a shepherd boy, God was with him when he killed the lion and the bear to protect the sheep. Once He was to be king, Samuel anointed him and the Bible says God's Spirit was with him from that day forward. (1 Sam.16:13)

A note on this verse in the Geneva Bible says that King David was making a comparison here between the faithful and the reprobate but Paul, writing in Romans, speaks the same of all men naturally or in the flesh. Remember in part two we learned that we don't go seeking God without first coming to Christ and we don't come to Christ unless the Father draws us and He draws us or calls / bids / invites us to Christ by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit convicts our hearts drawing us to Christ. We then accept God's invitation or reject it. Today is the day of

salvation. We are urged to choose salvation sooner rather than later, today in fact.

So what Paul is saying is that because we are in these flesh bodies dealing with a flesh nature, until we are truly born again, we are not seeking God. We are born with the spirit of the world (1 Cor.2:12) in us and that spirit is against God. So we don't naturally seek Him on our own. Once we are born again, born from above, a spiritual birth, that is when we now have God's Spirit inside of us. That's when everything begins to change.

Many times when the Bible says none it means the majority, but not everyone. Like we say the whole world is in sin but yet we know God still has a remnant of Christians in this world.

The world has been in sin ever since the fall of Adam and Eve. But God has always provided a way for His people to be redeemed to Himself. The Old Testament Saints made atonement for their sins by bringing the proper sacrifices year after year. The ones bringing the sacrifices and doing God's law with a pure heart were considered righteous.

Look at what Jesus said:

Luke 5:32 - I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

So we can see from that passage that there were people who were considered righteous. Remember John the Baptist's parents were filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied before John was born. You are not going to be a sinner and be filled with God's spirit.

Praise God that today we have a permanent sacrifice in Jesus Christ and no longer have to bring all of the animal sacrifices and follow all of those ordinances He laid out for Israel.

They had a choice to follow God's commands and bring the sacrifices continually or not. Just like we have a choice to receive Jesus Christ and obey or not.



Looking at the NT, sinners are commanded to "repent" and "believe." (Matthew 3:2, 4:17, Acts 3:19 and 1 John 3:23). The call to repent is a call to make a choice or rather to choose. The call to believe in Christ Jesus for salvation is for the hearers to choose to obey or disobey.

Jesus told some unbelievers that, "You refuse to come to Me to have life" (John 5:40). This means, they could have come if they wanted to but they chose not to. You know "A man reaps what he sows" (Galatians 6:7), and those who have refused to be born again have no excuse (Romans 1:20-21). Which means God has left man to his free will to choose evil or good. Hence you reap what you choose to do or follow.

All will appear before God to be judged and rewarded according to what their free will chose to do ie either evil or good. Moses told the Israelites to choose between life or death and between a curse or blessing. The fruits one bears reveals the kind of choices freely made by ones will.

The Bible says in John 1 that Jesus came for His own (house of Israel) but they rejected or refused Him, in other words, in their free wills, made a choice not to accept Him. Man who is limited by a sinful fallen nature, can only choose what is good, only through the grace and power of God that free will truly becomes "free" in the sense of being able to choose salvation (John 15:16).

It is the Holy Spirit who works in and through a person's will to regenerate that person (John 1:12-13) and give him/her a new nature "created to be like God in

true righteousness and holiness" (Ephesians 4:24). Salvation is God working which is just by His grace. He tells Moses I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy. The Bible says many are called but few are chosen. And the Bible says before God draws people to Himself for His own work, He looks at their hearts. He rejects some and accepts some. God provided salvation costing us nothing which is there for our choosing, only because of God's grace provided through Christ Jesus. The Holy Spirit convicts our will to make a choice freely without being forced.

We are held responsible for our motives, desires, and actions which are voluntary.

Again the Bible in Exodus records that Moses made a choice (his free will) that it was better to suffer with his Israelites than remain in the house of Pharaoh to enjoy sin just for a while. When Peter and John in the book of Acts were commanded not to preach in the name name of Jesus Christ again, they refused and said they will continue to preach. This all speaks of making choices in their free wills . Same with Joseph and Potifar's wife.

Think about a kid applying to college. They check the mail and they get an acceptance letter. However, if they never attend any classes then they are not a student of that college and it will have no impact on their life. They had no action, no follow through; they did not show up for class.

In the same way, God has an amazing plan for us and it begins with the gift of salvation. If you never come and accept the gift, then His plan will not unfold in your life. His plan requires action on your part.

We have a choice to make. What God will you serve, the One Who laid down His life for you or the god of this world, satan?

JESUS DIED FOR SOME

I never heard this before a few weeks ago. There are false teachers saying that Jesus did not die for everybody.

Does God love everybody?

1 John 4:19 - 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 (would) not perish, but have everlasting life.

So the Bible says God loved us first and that He loved the whole world. It doesn't have a disclaimer here. It doesn't say, He only loved certain ones and they are the only ones who can come to Him. He made salvation available through Jesus Christ for WHOSOEVER would believe. Whosoever, meaning: all, any, every, the whole. There is no exclusion here to anyone except that they must believe. When you believe or have faith in Him, you will take action to obey Him. If you only believe in your head what you've heard about Jesus and it never moves you to obey Him and serve Him then you only have head knowledge and that will not save you.

You must believe deep down in your heart and when you truly believe you will obey and because of your obedience to Him others will be able to see Godly fruit in your life. No fruit, no changed life = no salvation. Remember I used to sleep around and use profanity and drink socially and seek out scary movies and all the while I said I was a Christian because I believed what I had heard about Jesus Christ. If I would have died back then I would have went straight to hell. That's the number satan has done on the churches today where everyone claims to be a Christian but not many are obeying. That word belief means that you are moved into action by what you believe.

The only instance where obedience is not required is if you call out to Him from your deathbed. You sincerely were sorry for your sins against God and you were serious in your heart about calling on Him in that moment before death. Otherwise for the rest of us, we are called to obey. Jesus said obeying Him is how we show Him we love Him. So all the people saying they love Him but they don't obey Him at all are actually showing that they do not love Him. Salvation is available to ALL, whosoever.

1 Tim.2:1-4 - I exhort (urge) therefore, that, first of all, supplications (asking humbly or earnestly), prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and *for* all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this *is* good and acceptable in the

sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved (Who wants all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth (to understand the truth).

The false teaching that salvation is not for everyone says that the passage we just read is only for the gentiles or the nations, that is everyone except the Jews. That is replacement theology. Remember every time Paul went into a city where the Jews were he almost always went to them first and tried to teach them. Once they rejected him then he would continue on and teach the nations. He never said, well the door is closed to the Jews now and salvation is only being offered to the nations.

Romans 1:20-21 - For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--His eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse (no excuse for not knowing God). Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *Him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Verse 21:

New Living Translation

Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship Him as God or even give Him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused.

No one will have an excuse. God in His mercy is waiting and still has His servants spreading the gospel message. The gospel message is a bonus because we have a witness of God just by His creation and yet people hear the gospel message and still reject Him.

Once someone hears and understands the gospel and chooses not to be saved and not to live for God but chooses their sin. It seems God doesn't love that one. Like say a witch, the old witch that Pastor Erustus is fighting with. She was a Christian, but turned away from God and went deep into witchcraft. It is very

very hard for someone who has served on satan's altar like that to be saved, if at all. She's been trying to kill Pastor Erustus for a few years now.

Heb.6:4-6 - For *it is* impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God (goodness of the Word of God), and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away (who turn away from God), to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh (they are crucifying the Son of God all over again), and put *Him* to an open shame.

I believe this passage is first of all about the Jews who learned the gospel message and were truly saved and filled with the Holy Spirit but after a time were pressured and fell back to living under the law. However, it seems to also apply in the old witch's case. She has had a first hand witness of God's power on display and yet has not come back to Him. She has hardened her heart against Him. Do not play around with your salvation. So many think they will get their lives right with God tomorrow or one day but not now and the sad thing is that all the while their hearts are getting hardened against Jesus. There can come a time when they will not hear the Holy Spirit calling them anymore.

We know that not everyone will be saved because there will be plenty of people thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone with satan. Just because they will not believe and come and be saved through Jesus Christ does not mean that God did not want all of mankind to be saved.

WHO GOD HATES

Did you know God hates some people? He does have feeling and emotion. We are created in His image, we have feelings and emotions too. Let's go through a few passages about who God hates:

Psalm 5:5-6 - The foolish (arrogant/proud) shall not stand in Thy sight: Thou hatest all workers of iniquity. Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing (lies): the LORD will abhor (detest) the bloody and deceitful man (murderous and lying man).

Psalm 11:5 - The LORD trieth (tests) the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence His soul hateth.

CLOSING

Matt.12:30 – (Jesus speaking) He that is not with Me is against Me; and he that gathereth not with Me scattereth abroad.

You never want to be against God. You want to be working in the Father's vineyard, gathering and drawing people to Jesus Christ.

James 4:4 - Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

So the ones who will not come to God but love their sin and continue to work iniquity – God hates them. They seem to be the vessels who are prepared for destruction. He has a plan for them also, He will raise certain ones up to use to exercise His power and cause certain events to come about and to receive glory when He does pour His power out against them. In the future God is going to pour His power out against the antichrist, the false prophet and satan. They are vessels prepared for destruction because they chose to do things their way and not God's way. They chose their plan and not His. What's that old Elvis Presley song, "I Did it My Way." Doing it your way is against God.

PRAYER