



## Introduction

### Prologue

Many are the discussions which evolve around the topic of Free Will and Presdestination. While the concept of Free Will is expanded upon over the entire Bible, we still encounter loud voices which outrightly deny the existence of such, and strive in a twisted search for holiness and especially theological perfection for an ideal which encompasses doctrines such as 'Once-Saved-Always-Saved (see separate study), and that not being enough, proclaim that from the moment of our birth, there is no choice.

*"If THEOS is all-powerful, then He must know and define everything beforehand."* But could it be that THEOS is still sovereign while allowing small and even salvific choices? Would that not actually make Him stronger, and more just, by having this divine flexibility allowing people to freely follow Him or not, while having at the same time an unimaginable capacity to see all the evil happening while many - if not most- fail in making the correct choices?

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## Free Will

Free Will - to do <b>right</b> or <b>wrong</b> .	<p>"From every tree of the garden <b>you may freely eat</b>, but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it <b>you shall surely die</b>."</p> <p><i>My child, if sinners entice you, do not consent.</i></p> <p><i>So after they had assembled, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you - <b>Iesous Barabbas</b> or <b>IESOUS who is called CHRISTOS</b>?"</i></p> <p><i>So if the son sets you free, you will be <b>truly free</b>.</i></p> <p><i>... disobedient to parents, senseless, faithless, unfeeling, unmerciful, who, although they know <b>the requirements of THEOS</b> [...] not only do they <b>do the same things</b>, but also they approve of those who do them.</i></p> <p><i>All things are permitted for me, but not all things are profitable.</i></p> <p><i>All things are permitted for me, but I will <b>not be controlled by anything</b>.</i></p> <p><i>For freedom <b>CHRISTOS has set us free</b>. Stand firm, therefore, and <b>do not be subject again</b> to a yoke of slavery.</i></p> <p><i>For you were <b>called to freedom</b>, brothers. Only do not let your <b>freedom</b> become an opportunity for <b>the flesh</b>, but through love serve one another.</i></p> <p><i>But apart from <b>your consent</b>, I wanted to do nothing, in order that your good deed might be not as according to necessity, but according to your own <b>Free Will</b>.</i></p> <p><i>... shepherd the flock of <b>THEOS</b> among you, exercising oversight <b>not by compulsion but willingly</b>, in accordance with <b>THEOS</b>, and <b>not greedily but eagerly</b> ...</i></p>	Gen 2:16-17 Pro 1:10 Mat 27:17 Joh 8:36 Rom 13:32 1Cor 6:12 Gal 5:1 Gal 5:13 Phi 1:14 1Pet 5:2 2Cor 5:7-8 Gal 4:9 2Tim 3:12 Rev 2:21 Rev 22:17
Free Will - to <b>follow THEOS</b> or <b>not</b> .	<p><i>... for we live by faith, not by sight - so we are confident and <b>prefer rather to be absent from the body</b> and to be at home with KYRIOS.</i></p> <p><i>But now, because you have come to know <b>THEOS</b>, or rather have come to be known by <b>THEOS</b>, how can you turn back again to the weak and miserable elemental spirits? <b>Do you want to be enslaved</b> to them all over again?</i></p> <p><i>And indeed, all those who <b>want to live in a pious manner</b> in <b>CHRISTOS IESOUS</b> will be persecuted.</i></p> <p><i>And I have given her [Jezebel] time in order to repent, and <b>she did not want to repent</b> from her sexual immorality.</i></p> <p><i>And the <b>SPIRIT</b> and the <b>BRIDE</b> say, "Come!" And the one who hears, let him say, "Come!" And the one who is thirsty, let him come. <b>The one who wants</b>, let him take the water of life freely.</i></p>	2Cor 5:7-8 Gal 4:9 2Tim 3:12 Rev 2:21 Rev 22:17

## Examples of Free Will

Free Will to <b>give</b> as the heart leads, not according to modern theologies about 'Tithing' (see separate topical study)	<p><i>I testify that they <b>gave according to their ability</b>, and beyond their ability, <b>by their own choice</b> [Strong's G830, ΑΥΘΑΙΡΕΤΟ, authairetos: self chosen, that is, (by implication) voluntary: - of own accord, willing of self.] [...] But thanks be to <b>THEOS</b>, who has put in the heart of Titus the same <b>devotion</b> on your behalf, because he not only welcomed our request, but being very <b>earnest</b>, <b>by his own choice</b> he went out to you.</i></p>	2Cor 8:3-17
Free Will to <b>marry</b> .	<p><i>Each one should give <b>as he has decided</b> in his heart, <b>not reluctantly or from compulsion</b>, for <b>THEOS</b> loves a <b>cheerful</b> giver.</i></p>	2Cor 9:7
Free Will to offer <b>sacrifices</b> . (Old Covenant)	<p><i>And if any wife has an unbelieving husband and he <b>consents</b> to live with her, she must not divorce her husband.</i></p>	1Cor 7:13
Free Will to pursue worldly <b>riches</b> or to pursue the will of <b>THEOS</b> .	<p><i>I will <b>freely sacrifice</b> to you [Old Covenant Law]; I will give thanks to your name, O KYRIOS, because it is good.</i></p>	Psa 54:6
Free Will to <b>vow</b> .	<p><i>After this, they offered the continual burnt offering, both of the new moons, and of all the set feasts of KYRIOS that were consecrated, and of every one that <b>willingly offered</b> a freewill offering unto KYRIOS.</i></p>	Ezr 3:5

Hebrew	<p><i>But those who <b>want to be rich</b> fall into temptation and a trap and many foolish and harmful desires, which plunge those people into ruin and destruction.</i></p>	1Tim 6:9
	<p><i>The utterance of your lips you must perform diligently just as you have <b>vowed freely</b> to KYRIOS your <b>THEOS</b> whatever it was that you promised with your mouth.</i></p>	Deu 23:23
	<p><i>And when the daughter of Herodias herself came in and danced and pleased Herod and his dinner guests, the king said to the girl, "Ask me for <b>whatever you want</b>, and I will give it to you." And he swore to her, "Anything whatever you ask me for I will give you [...] And she said, "The head of John the baptizer."</i></p>	Mar 6:22-26
	<p><i>Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it <b>willingly</b> [H5068] with his heart ye shall take my offering.</i></p>	Exo 25:2
	<p><i>And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made <b>willing</b> [H5068], and they brought KYRIOS' offering to the work of the tabernacle ...</i></p>	Exo 35:21

	<p><i>... Now who will offer <b>willingly</b> [H5068], consecrating himself today to KYRIOS?"</i></p>	1Chr 29:5
	<p><i>And the people blessed all the men who <b>willingly</b> [H5068] offered to live in Jerusalem.</i></p>	Neh 11:2

Greek	<p><i>Speak to the children of Israel, and take first-fruits of all, who <b>may be disposed</b> [Strong's G1380, ΑΙΩΝΙΟ, dokeo, To think, to seem, to suppose, to be of opinion.</i></p>	Exo 25:2
	<p><i>... and they brought each what <b>led their heart</b>. And the ones which it <b>seemed good</b> [G1380] in their soul brought a choice portion to KYRIOS for all the works of the tent of the testimony, and for all the upkeep of it, and for all the (holy appurtenances).</i></p>	Exo 35:21
	<p><i>... for thee to use the gold for things of gold, and the silver for things of silver, and for every work by the hand of the artificers. And who <b>is willing</b> [Strong's G4287.1 ΠΡΟΘΥΜΟΥΜΕΝΟΣ, prothymoumenos] to dedicate himself in work this day for KYRIOS?</i></p>	1Chr 29:5
	<p><i>And the people blessed all the men that <b>volunteered</b> [ΕΚΟΥΣΙΑΖΟΜΕΝΟΥΣ, hekousiazomenous] to dwell in Jerusalem.</i></p>	Neh 11:2

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## Comments

## Scripture

Prologue  
To PredestinationPredesti-  
nation

Predestination is like the bridegroom having elected us before creation. Free Will is the faithful virgin deciding to come to the Wedding Celebration of the LAMB. Just as earthly marriage requires the individual consent of both man and woman, so the heavenly marriage requires the individual consent of both THEOS and a son of THEOS. This most importantly implies a continuous faith and sanctification.

For a person to believe in CHRISTOS and to be saved, divine influence is necessary.

Our own decision is most important when it comes to Past- and Present Salvation, but we should not neglect that THEOS plays the primary role in holding His hand out to us, as long as He wishes to do so. Everyone who comes to THEOS, has unknowingly been drawn near. A just THEOS gives -everyone, not just to a few elect- at least once in his or her lifetime the chance to draw near. But this chance might have passed and a then hardened heart will not permit THEOS to draw near again. THEOS gives us usually many chances, but not unlimited chances.

THEOS knows a positive decision already before we are born, but still leaves the active decision to us. In a similar way, small day to day decisions -following temptations or other situations- are a gateway of Free Will, with the choice to follow His way or not.

## 'Called'

Strong's G2564, ΚΑΛΕΩ kaleo, Akin to the base of G2753; to 'call' (properly aloud, but used in a variety of applications, directly or otherwise): - bid, call (forth), (whose, whose sur-) name (was [called]).

While the writers of the Good Message use this word almost exclusively in the sense of calling a person verbally, Paul uses this word in his letters rather for our spiritual calling.

The context this word is used implies hope, but **definitely not an eternal security, while including many warnings!**

*Blessed is one whom you choose and bring near, that he may abide in your courts. We will be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple.*

*... everyone who is called [present tense of G1941 ΕΠΙΚΑΛΕΩ, epikaleo(mai)] by my name, and whom I created for my glory, whom I formed, indeed whom I made."*

*And the word of KYRIOS came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you came out from the womb I consecrated you; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."*

*But there are certain of you who do not believe,' for IESOUS had known from the beginning who they are who are not believing, and who is he who will deliver him up, and He said, 'Because of this I have said to you - No one is able to come unto me, if it may not have been given him from my FATHER.' From this [time] many of His disciples went away backward, and were no more walking with Him.*

*... KYRIOS has commanded us: 'I have appointed you to be a light for the Gentiles, that you would bring salvation to the end of the earth.' And when the Gentiles heard this, they began to rejoice and to glorify the word of KYRIOS. And all those who were designated for eternal life believed.*

*[Predestination of the Nation of Israel, not of individuals!] ... when Rebecca conceived children by one man, Isaac our father - for although they had not yet been born, or done anything good or evil, in order that the purpose of THEOS according to election might remain, not by works but by the one who calls - it was said to her, "The older will serve the younger," just as it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated." What then shall we say? There is no injustice with THEOS, is there? May it never be!*

*... What Israel [the nation!] was searching for, this it did not obtain. But the elect obtained it, and the rest were hardened, just as it is written, "THEOS gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that do not see and ears that do not hear, until this very day."*

*But when the one who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me [G2564, ΚΑΛΕΩ, kaleo: called loudly] by His grace ...*

*... For I came not to call [G2564] righteous ones, but sinners."*

*Each one in the calling in which he was called [G2564] - in this he should remain. [...] Each one in the situation in which he was called, brothers - in this he should remain with THEOS.*

*I am astonished that you are turning away so quickly from the one who called [G2564] you by the grace of CHRISTOS to a different Good Message ...*

*... you were called [G2564] with one hope of your calling ...*

*But we ought to give thanks to THEOS always concerning you, brothers dearly loved by KYRIOS, because THEOS has chosen you as first fruits for salvation by the sanctification of the Spirit and faith in the truth, for which purpose He called [G2564] you through our Good Message for the obtaining of the glory of our KYRIOS IESOUS CHRISTOS. So then, brothers, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions which you were taught, whether by spoken word or by letter from us. Now may our KYRIOS IESOUS CHRISTOS Himself and THEOS our FATHER, who has loved us and given us eternal encouragement and good hope by grace, encourage you ...*

*Therefore, do not be ashamed of the testimony about our KYRIOS, nor me his prisoner, but suffer along with me for the Good Message, according to the power of THEOS, who saved us and called [G2564] us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to His own purpose and grace that was given to us in CHRISTOS IESOUS before time began ...*

*And for this cause he is the mediator of the New Testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called [G2564] might [may / should] receive [clearly not certain in this context] the promise of eternal inheritance.*

*But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for THEOS' possession, so that you may proclaim the virtues of the one who called [G2564] you out of darkness into his marvelous light ...*

*But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this finds favor with THEOS. For to this you were called [G2564], because CHRISTOS also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in His footsteps ...*

*And finally, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, showing mutual affection, compassionate, humble, not repaying evil for evil or insult for insult, but on the other hand blessing others, because for this reason you were called [G2564], so that you could inherit a blessing.*

*And the THEOS of all grace, who called [G2564] you to His eternal glory in CHRISTOS, after you have suffered for a short time, will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.*

*And if those days are not shortened, there would not be saved any flesh. But on account of the chosen ones, those days will be shortened. Then if anyone should say to you: 'Behold, here is the CHRISTOS', or 'there', you should not believe. For pseudo-christos and pseudo-prophets will be raised, and they will show great signs and miracles so as to lead astray, if possible even the chosen ones.*

*And He will send His angels with a great trumpet, and they will gather His chosen ones through the four winds, from the ends of the heavens to their ends.*

*And will not THEOS surely see to it that justice is done to His chosen ones who cry out to him day and night, and will he delay toward them?*

*You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and your fruit should remain, in order that whatever you ask the FATHER in my name he will give you.*

*Greet Rufus, the chosen one in KYRIOS, and his mother and mine.*

*Therefore, as the chosen of THEOS, holy and dearly loved, put on affection, compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience ...*

*I testify solemnly before THEOS and CHRISTOS IESOUS and the elect angels that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing according to partiality.*

*... a living stone rejected by men but chosen and precious in the sight of THEOS. And you yourselves, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to THEOS through IESOUS CHRISTOS. For it stands in Scripture, "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who believes in him will never be put to shame." Therefore the honor is for you who believe [...] you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for THEOS' possession, so that you may proclaim the virtues of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light, who once were not a people, but now are the people of THEOS, the ones who were not shown mercy, but now are shown mercy.*

*The children of your elect sister greet you.*

*... the LAMB will conquer them, because He is KYRIOS of kyrion and King of kings, and those with Him are called and chosen and faithful."*

Psa  
65:4

Isa  
43:7

Jer  
1:4-5

Joh  
6:64-66

Act  
13:46-48

Rom  
9:10-14

Rom  
11:7-8

Gal  
1:15

Mat  
9:13

1Cor  
7:20-24

Gal  
1:6-7

Eph  
4:4

2The  
2:13-18

2Tim  
1:8-9

Heb  
9:15

1Pet  
2:9

1Pet  
2:21

1Pet  
3:9

1Pet  
5:10

Mat  
24:22-24

Mat  
24:31

Luk  
18:7

Col  
3:12

1Tim  
5:21

1Pet  
2:4-10

2Joh  
1:13

Rev  
17:4

Rev  
17:14



## Comments

## Scripture

## The Golden Chain

The golden chain of Foreknowledge – Predestination – Calling – Justification – Sanctification – Glorification is regularly applied to us, but is written mostly in Past Tense, referring to CHRISTOS and rather to Old Testament saints.

*And we know that all things work together for good for those who love THEOS, for those who are called according to His purpose,*

*Rom 8:28-30*

## 'Foreknowledge / Prognosis'

Strong's G4267, ΠΡΟΓΝΩΣΚΩ, *proginosko*, From G4253 and G1097; to know beforehand, that is, foresee: – **foreknow** (ordain), know (before).

*[now Paul changes intentionally to Past Tense] because those whom He foreknew [G4267, *proginōskō*], He also predestined [G4309, *proorizō*, predetermine] to be conformed to the image of His Son, so that He should be [already happened in the past] the firstborn among many brothers.*

*Rom 8:28-30*

We have also to ask ourselves if our current use of the word is really as far off from the biblical meaning as e.g. Calvinists ought to make us believe: **prognosis, forecast, predication, projection, outlook, estimation, prospectus**'. This last word rendered on a common platform as Linguee as '**prospectus**' is possibly very close to the intended biblical meaning. We are **prospects** for the Kingdom of the Heavens, which is a beautiful expectation and sufficient for the time being.

*And those whom He predestined, these He also called, and those whom He called, these He also justified, and those whom He justified, these He also glorified [Past Tense = all happened before Paul wrote those lines, but the principle applies to us, although not as a matter of fact, but as an example of a hope we are able to inherit, if we follow the example of successful sanctification Old Testament saints such as Abraham or Moses have given us].*

*Rom 8:28-30*

## 'Foreknowledge / Prognosis'

Strong's G4268, ΠΡΟΓΝΩΣΙΑ, *prognosis*, From G4267; forethought: – **foreknowledge**.

*... those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His SON ...*

*Rom 11:2*

*THEOS has not rejected his people, whom He foreknew! Or do you not know, in the passage about Elijah, what the Scripture says – how he appeals to THEOS against Israel?*

*1Pet 1:19-20*

*... the precious blood of CHRISTOS, like that of an unblemished and spotless LAMB who was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has been revealed in these last times for you ...*

## 'Predetermine / Foreordain'

Strong's G4309, ΠΡΟΟΡΙΖΩ, *proorizo*, From G4253 and G3724; to limit in advance, that is, (figuratively) **predetermine**: – determine before, **ordain**, predestinate.

*"Israelite men, listen to these words! IESOUS the Nazarene, a man attested to you by THEOS with deeds of power and wonders and signs that THEOS did through him in your midst, just as you yourselves know – this man, delivered up by the determined plan and **foreknowledge** of THEOS, you executed by nailing to a cross through the hand of lawless men.*

*Act 2:22-23*

*... elect according to the **foreknowledge** of THEOS the FATHER ...*

*1Pet 1:1-2*

*For in truth both Herod and Pontius Pilate, together with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, assembled together in this city against your holy servant IESOUS whom you anointed, to do all that your hand and plan had predetermined to take place.*

*Act 4:27-28*

*... those whom He foreknew, He also **predestined** to be conformed to the image of His SON [...] And those whom He **predestined**, these He also called ...*

*Rom 8:28-30*

*... we speak the hidden wisdom of THEOS in a mystery, which **THEOS predestined before the ages for our glory**, which none of the rulers of this age knew. For if they had known it, they would not have crucified the KYRIOS of glory. But just as it is written, "Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and have not entered into the heart of man, all that **THEOS has prepared** for those who love him."*

*1Cor 2:7-9*

*... He chose us in Him **before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and blameless before him in love, having **predestined us to adoption through IESOUS CHRISTOS** to Himself according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace that He bestowed on us in the beloved [...] in Him in whom also **we were chosen, having been predestined according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will**, that we who **hoped beforehand** in CHRISTOS should be for the praise of His glory, in whom also you, when you heard the word of truth, the Good Message of your salvation, in whom also when you believed you were sealed with the promised HOLY SPIRIT ...*

*Eph 1:4-11*

## 'Appoint Beforehand' (30x OT, 7x NT)

Strong's G4384, ΠΡΟΤΑΣΣΩ, *protasso*, From G4253 and G5021; to pre-arrange, that is, prescribe: – **before appoint** [almost always translated with 'commanded' which rather excludes a 'definite' sense]

*... and hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times **before appointed**, and the bounds of their habitation ...*

*Act 17:26*

## 'Chosen Beforehand' (0x OT, 1x NT only!)

Strong's G4401, ΠΡΟΧΕΙΡΟΤΟΝΕΩ, *procheirotoneo*, From G4253 and G5500; to **elect in advance**: – choose before.

*THEOS raised this one up on the third day and granted that He should become visible, not to all the people but to us who had been **chosen beforehand** by THEOS as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.*

*Act 10:40-41*

## 'Fixed Beforehand' (0x OT, 1x NT only!)

Strong's G4287, ΠΡΟΘΕΣΜΙΑ, *prothesmia*, From G4253 and a derivative of G5087; **fixed beforehand**, that is, a **designated day**: – time appointed.

*And I say, so long time as the heir is a babe, he differeth nothing from a servant – being lord of all, but is under tutors and stewards **till the time appointed of the FATHER**.*

*Gal 4:1-2*

## Double Predestination

## Is Double Predestination (Predestination to Gehenna) biblical?

Not in the sense that people are predestined to Gehenna as Calvinists would conclude through their theology, but that THEOS foreknows our decisions, as we can see on the basis of the story of Pharaoh. He was raised for the role of the oppressor (Rom 9:17), but the hardening of his heart was not a product of mere chance.

It was – as plainly ignored in most interpretations (study always in context!) – a direct product of the **pre-existence of professional and widespread witchcraft** already at the time of Joseph.

Only after Pharaoh did not surrender after the first miracle and instead responded with witchcraft successfully repeating the first 3 miracles, his heart was instantly hardened.

While **even the magicians had long surrendered**, Pharaoh's heart became harder and harder. Though Pharaoh was raised for the role of the oppressor, he did not come into condemnation without deserving it. He had the choice before his heart initially hardened. THEOS foresaw this from the beginning of the world. He did not predestine him to witchcraft, but foresaw his condemnation after he would actively commit witchcraft.

*For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very reason I have raised you up, so that I may demonstrate my power in you, and so that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth."*

*Rom 9:17*

*And I myself will harden the heart of Pharaoh, and I will make my signs and my wonders numerous in the land of Egypt.*

*Exo 7:3*

*[Pre-existence of witchcraft] And it happened that in the morning his spirit was troubled, and he sent and called **all the magicians of Egypt**, and all its wise men, and **Pharaoh** told his dream to them. But they had no interpretation for Pharaoh.*

*Gen 41:8*

*[Successful repetition of 1st miracle] And Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers, and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did likewise with their secret arts. Each threw down his staff, and they became snakes, and Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs. And **Pharaoh's heart is hard** [present tense; for the first time; G2729 ΚΑΤΙΧΥΩ, *katischuo* = it grew strong], and he did not listen to them, as KYRIOS had said.*

*Exo 7:11-13*

*[Successful repetition of 2nd miracle] And the magicians of Egypt did likewise with their secret arts, and **Pharaoh's heart was hard**, and he did not listen to them, as KYRIOS had spoken.*

*Exo 7:22*

*[Successful repetition of 3rd miracle] And the magicians did likewise with their secret arts, and they brought up frogs over the land of Egypt.*

*Exo 8:7*

*[Failure at repetition of 4th miracle] And the magicians did so with their secret arts to bring out the gnats, but they were not able, and the gnats were on the humans and on the animals. And the magicians said to Pharaoh, "It is the finger of THEOS." But the **heart of Pharaoh was hard**, and he did not listen to them, as KYRIOS had spoken.*

*Exo 8:18-19*

what we can only know after we will make the respective free-will decisions.

It is perfectly just.

## Epilogue

