

EPHESIANS

Predestined (1:3-14)



Predestination

3 Focuses of Ephesians 1:1-14

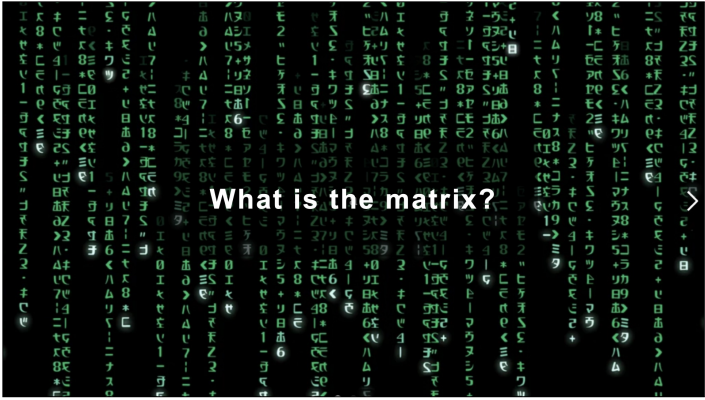
- 1. **Blessed** (with every spiritual blessing)
- 2. **Chosen** (to be holy and blameless)
- 3. **Predestined** (for adoption)

Monergism vs Synergism

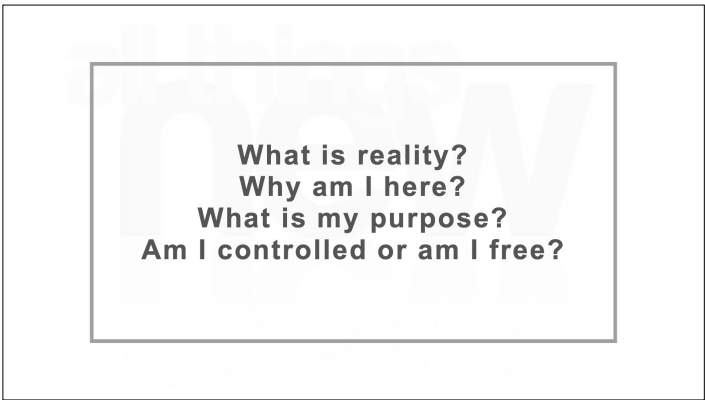
Iresistable Grace vs Resistable Grace

Unconditional Election vs Conditional Election

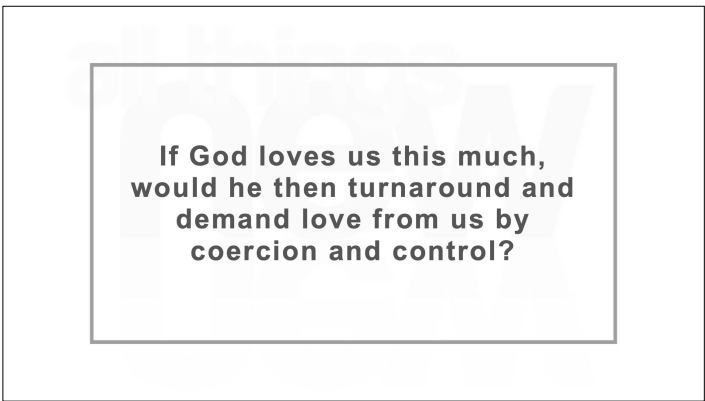
A text without context is a pretext for a proof text.



What is the matrix?



**What is reality?
Why am I here?
What is my purpose?
Am I controlled or am I free?**



**If God loves us this much,
would he then turnaround and
demand love from us by
coercion and control?**

SCRIPTURE

In love ⁵he **predestined us for adoption** to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

Ephesians 1:1-14 (NIV)

EPHESIANS

Predestined for adoption

- 1. Adoption was a contract between families**
- 2. The adoptee was often an adult**
- 3. Only sons could inherit**

QUOTE

Adoption in ancient Rome was primarily a legal procedure for transferring paternal power (potestas) to ensure succession in the male line within Roman patriarchal society.

QUOTE

The Latin word *adoptio* refers broadly to "adoption", which was of two kinds: the transferral of potestas over a free person from one head of household to another;

QUOTE

...and *adrogatio*, when the adoptee had been acting sui iuris as a legal adult but assumed the status of unemancipated son for purposes of inheritance.

Sui iuris is a Latin phrase that literally means "of one's own right".

In love ⁵he **predestined us for adoption** to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—
⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

Ephesians 1:1-14 (NIV)

God's Sovereignty

¹¹In him we were also **chosen**, having been **predestined according to the plan of him** who works out everything in conformity with the **purpose of his will**,

Ephesians 1:1-14 (NIV)

Being chosen doesn't negate choice.

**Man's Autonomy
(Matt. 22:1-14)**

SCRIPTURE

¹Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: ²"The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, **but they refused to come.**

Matthew 22:1-14 (NIV)

SCRIPTURE

⁴“Then he sent some more servants and said, ‘Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.’”

Matthew 22:1-14 (NIV)

SCRIPTURE

⁵“But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. ⁶The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them.”

Matthew 22:1-14 (NIV)

SCRIPTURE

⁷The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. ⁸“Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. ⁹So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.’”

Matthew 22:1-14 (NIV)

SCRIPTURE

¹⁰So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

Matthew 22:1-14 (NIV)

SCRIPTURE

¹¹“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹²He asked, ‘How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?’ The man was speechless.

Matthew 22:1-14 (NIV)

SCRIPTURE

¹³“Then the king told the attendants, ‘Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴“For many are invited (called), but few are chosen.”

Matthew 22:1-14 (NIV)

**WE see both at work:
God's sovereignty and man's
autonomy
(Ephesians 1:12-14)**

SCRIPTURE

¹²in order that **we**, who were the first to **put our hope in Christ**, might be for the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 1:1-14 (NIV)

SCRIPTURE

¹³And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. **When you believed**, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 1:1-14 (NIV)

Predestination brings

1. Adoption
(Rom. 8:15; Gal. 3:26)

¹⁵So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when **he adopted you as his own children**. Now we call him, "Abba, Father."

Romans 8:15 (NLT)

²⁶For **you are all children of God** through **faith** in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:26 (NLT)

⁸It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going.

Hebrews 11:8 (NLT)

Predestination brings

- 1. Adoption**
(Rom. 8:15; Gal. 3:26)
- 2. Inheritance** (Pro. 13:22)

²²A good person leaves an inheritance for their children's children, but a sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous.

Proverbs 13:22 (NIV)

Predestination is meant to us that God

3. Hope & Future (Jer. 29:11)

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

Predestination is meant to us that God

3. Hope & Future (Jer. 29:11)

4. Demonstration of God's Love (Gal. 4:4-8, Rom 5:8)

SCRIPTURE

⁴But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. ⁶Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." ⁷So you are no

Galatians 4:4-8 (NIV)

SCRIPTURE

longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

⁸Formerly, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods.

Galatians 4:4-8 (NIV)

SCRIPTURE

⁸But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8 (NIV)

The whole debate is ultimately a fool's errand because regardless of how we THINK biblical predestination works, no one can prove how God does it. And moreso, the end result is the same in both cases:
God loves us.