

**WHEN WE LOOK IN THE MIRROR,
WHO DO WE SEE?**

By Jacquelyn Fedor

Romans 8:29-30 tells us we were predestined to be conformed to the image of Jesus. Think about what that means! He also said He would call us and if we came He would justify us, make us righteous, no matter what we were before the call! Yes, no matter how caught up in the world we once were or how far off we were from His will and Kingdom we would still be justified! We may have been a very ambitious one that pushed and worked very hard to build our own personal lifestyle, but ... when He called, all our efforts can fall apart. The good part of being predestined is, if we answer the call of God, what we did in our own strength falls apart and a brand new life in Him begins! At that moment the thing He called us to be starts to manifest, that is, if it is our will to walk in His.

Romans 8:29-30 says,

29 For whom He **foreknew**, He **also predestined** to be **conformed** to the **image of His Son** (baptized into His death, resurrected in His resurrection, filled with the Spirit of God, to become the same species as Christ, then filled with His knowledge to become the image of the Word), that He might be the **firstborn** among **many brethren**.

30 Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called (to begin to manifest what we were actually created to be); whom He called, these He also justified (forgave our past completely, not a prisoner of sin any longer); and whom He justified, these He also glorified (as a mature body we will become the church glorious, the body of Christ, His temple).

How can this be? The Word tells us God, the greatest architect ever, had all things planned or blueprinted before they were actually brought into being or created. Through His perfectly calculated formulas all creation, the whole universe, was created and has manifested each in their own time. All was predestined! In other words, that means you and I were created perfectly before the earth was ever formed! Then the Word tells us He rested. So where is the perfection, the restoration we all desperately are seeking? Is it not in His rest? So scripture tells us His rest can only be entered by those of us that can give up who we wanted to be so we can manifest into who He predestined us to be! In other words, as we enter into His rest we enter His original plan and begin to manifest His will for us before time began.

After all this time we may wonder, does God remember what He created us to be and even what we looked like?

Of course He does, He knows every hair on our heads according to Luke 12:7

and remember, Romans 8 told us we were predestined to be made into the image of His Son who was Himself in the image of His Father.

John 14:9

9 Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

Do you understand what that means for us? We too that have been conformed to Christ's image are also in Father's image!

John 14:20

20 At that day (eighth day) you will know (have understanding) that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.

Our spirit and soul is shaped to the image of God, our bodies are to be conformed to the image of the Christ that dwelled on earth.

John 10:34 shows us,

34 Jesus answered them, “Is it not written in your law, ‘I said, “You are gods” ’?”

So understand who we are and that what we do was predestined and is not at all depending on our works, it was Father's plan. All we need to contribute is our obedience.

II Timothy 1:9

9 who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus (in the Word in His knowledge) before time began, (Is that not awesome?)

In other words, our work and lifestyle within the Kingdom is not according to our desires and agendas. It is according to God's purpose, our obedience, and predestined ability plus His anointing to accomplish our job for Him successfully. All of this is by His grace. So again, it is He that gifts us with the ability to do the job He asks us to do.

God's conversation with Jeremiah shows us an example.

Jeremiah 1:5

5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.”

Jeremiah couldn't study hard enough or put out enough effort on his part to become a prophet, God had already set him aside, prepared a time, cleaned him up and made him one. All it took on his part was to be obedient to his call! You see, we all have a free will and many do not answer when He calls, too busy with their own thing. Scripture says many are called, but few are chosen. Why? Because they couldn't stop fulfilling their own plans to fulfill His! Now let us look at Amos. He was a simple sheep herder, but God called him to be a very prominent prophet, one created to speak against his own people!

Sometimes our call is just plain not easy, takes real courage! Let us read from Amos.

Amos 7:15-17

15 Then the Lord took me as I followed the flock, and the Lord said to me, 'Go, prophesy to My people Israel.'

16 Now therefore, hear the word of the Lord: (how would you like to give the following prophecy?) You say, 'Do not prophesy against Israel, and do not spout against the house of Isaac.' (They didn't want to hear the prophetic word.)

17 "Therefore thus says the Lord: 'Your wife shall be a harlot in the city; your sons and daughters shall fall by the sword; your land shall be

divided by survey line; you shall die in a defiled land; and Israel shall surely be led away captive from his own land.’ ”

As we can plainly see, being obedient to our call can certainly take great courage!

Speaking of courage, look at the courage of Jesus! He knew who He was predestined to be and what was expected of Him. He clearly understood God's plan for Him!

I Peter 1:19-20

19 but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. (He knew He was to be sacrificed and how it would be done!)

20 He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you (He did it for God's predestined children not even born yet!)

Imagine, living your whole life knowing you were going to die that horrific death! Talk about courage, fortitude! Is this not also love beyond comprehension?

So what is predestination exactly?

Ecclesiastes 1:9 gives us the definition.

9 **That which has been** (in God's perfectly calculated plan) is **what will be**, **that which is done** (the perfect plan completed) is **what will be done** (brought into being), and **there is nothing new** under the sun.

Now let us read from Ephesians.

Ephesians 1:3-5

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with **every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ**,

4 just as **He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be **holy and without blame before Him in love**, (He predestined us to be born after the cross!)

5 **having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will**, (pretty awesome, isn't it?)

It is the Father's good will that we be happy, sin free children, healthy, full of life as created by Him. That is our destiny if we answer His call, choose His knowledge, eat it, swallow and become it. We will manifest in the image of Christ, the Word, and happily let go of the knowledge of the world. We understand it is the warped knowledge of the evil one that challenged the

Word in the first place and came against the knowledge of God!

Satan thought he knew as much or even more than the sovereign God that created him! Since Father didn't design him with the ability to create either he needed man to work through as they were created in God's image, in the image of Father. This is why he beguiled Eve into tasting of his knowledge. He knew if they disobeyed God would put them out of the Kingdom and he could start things rolling for him to build his own world, design his own systems and fulfill his plans. Unknowingly Eve became the mother of a whole species of mankind that are just as rebellious and are still fulfilling Satan's plans today. As we know however, Father had a plan also and it was formed way before Satan or anything else for that matter was ever created!

Again, because of Adam and Eve's compliance with the enemy, each and every one of us were born into this fantasy world created through mankind and Satan's knowledge. Everything we did from childhood on was done in his world and therefore tainted by his twisted thinking. The things mankind is still doing today many times reflect Satan's nature as he, without us understanding who he is, was our teacher, our mentor. We groped around in spiritual darkness thinking we were simply living life the way we chose when all the time we were fulfilling the plan of God's enemy! Many, caught up in this Satan-constructed vortex known as the world with its evil systems,

committed terrible crimes, did immoral, unthinkable things and may have later wondered why they even did them! Little did they know they were urged by this evil creature through his warped knowledge. Evil mindsets, filthy traits, coarse language, immodesty, perversion of all kinds were a part of their everyday existence. They didn't know any better! Unfortunately the false doctrines and lies concerning God's knowledge taught through Satan's different religions were the guideposts for many that were truly searching for God.

Then there are those that were the victims of this evil realm. People that were raped, marred mentally by participation in wars, those that were cheated through the world's shrewd business practices and lied to, on and on. All of the above came from one evil source! Drawn into Satan's plan, some actually grew to love this wicked world and have made their decision to not change even when God does call them. These will sadly be given up to a reprobate mind, but ... those that come to Him, those that hear the call and answer, are welcomed into His family and a whole new life begins! Our past life, before the call to our predestined place in God, was shrouded by the darkness of Satan's mind. Our now however, our future, is clothed in the Light of God's Word! Oh yes, we can see this evil world, but at the same time we know it will not last forever. Father will soon say “enough is enough”! Our new life is thankfully protected, our spirit and soul are daily being taught from God's

unseen mountain and city, Mount Sion and New Jerusalem! It is all a part of God's plan!

II Corinthians 4:18 is a very important scripture to remember when we feel down and weak in faith.

18 while we **do not** look at the **things which are seen** (the bad, the ugly, the evil that goes on around us), but at the **things which are not seen** (the protective angels, God's mountain and city of refuge). **For the things which are seen are temporary** (all that are in opposition to God's Kingdom will be destroyed), but the **things which are not seen** (all those things that are a part of the Kingdom of God) **are eternal**.

Daniel 7:18 reveals this promise.

18 But **the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.**'

Daniel 7:27 again tells us,

27 **Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him.**'

This is such good news, especially for those freshly delivered from Satan's world, a most beautiful promise! Satan's vortex or fantasy world is absolutely promised by God to not be allowed forever!

Luke 18:7

7 And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him (through prayer and praise), though He bears long with them?

It is important we understand that God is not interested in Satan's vortex nor is He any part of this world! He will not fix it no matter how hard we pray, He will destroy it! Trying to make Satan's world a better place to live in is a total waste of time and effort. It is all just Satan's dream world and he is the god of it. So all that is in it is also the manifestation of his prideful plan and selfish purpose. So the things that befall us in this world, before we answer God's call, are all Satan's fault, a part of his plan, yet many times God gets the blame! Family members may die in the vortex, ones that wouldn't answer His call to come out. Others have been killed in the vortex that identified with Satan's society and were involved with the world's evil that were loved ones. Not God's intention or His fault. We did so many things at the enemy's beckoning that destroyed our bodies, ruined our minds, ended marriages and relationships etc. and God was blamed for not helping us! Even after the call of God is answered and we are baptized and filled with the Spirit, many

ignorantly still hold God responsible for what the enemy did to them or perhaps caused them to do to themselves while in the world.

Unfortunately these physically experienced situations can be more real to our carnal man than the promises of God. The pain from playing sports for instance is easier to identify with than the scriptural fact “by the stripes of Jesus we are healed”. Scripture is law! The world's knowledge will try to ruin our faith in God and hinder us from believing His promises thus bringing us defeat!

Remember, the enemy is a shrewd puppeteer that uses the world's people as his puppets quite expertly. Understand, those highly trained in his knowledge will ruin our faith in God's Word and even pull us back into his world. You can see why we must circumcise ourselves from the world and its highly educated people if we want to experience restoration. You see, those filled with the world's knowledge will unknowingly have the wrong perspective, warped reactions, bad advice for us though unintentionally straight from the mind of Satan! God's people in leadership positions on the other hand ask the Lord to put His words in their mouth and His Wisdom in their hearts.

I Corinthians 2:16

16 For “who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?” But

we have the mind of Christ (to do whatever the predestined has to do).

Who is better equipped to give good advice? Satan and the world, or God's leaders predestined for their position and chosen for His Kingdom? To add to that, God Himself backs the counsel of vessels He leads through. They are a part of His plan for this time.

Isaiah 44:26 alludes to this.

26 Who confirms the word of His servant, and performs the counsel of His messengers (God makes it happen); Who says to Jerusalem, ‘You shall be inhabited,’ to the cities of Judah, ‘You shall be built,’ and I will raise up her waste places; (He will cause this to manifest.)

First Corinthians tells us God's opinion of the world's knowledge.

I Corinthians 3:19

19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, “He catches the wise in their own craftiness”;

Okay, so God is not a part of the world's people or their knowledge. In fact, we are beginning to see He is not of this world, it's all Satan's. God loves His creation and in His timing calls us out of the world, we each have a chance.

Even in the most remote areas of the earth the truth can reach His people on the wind. They will somehow just know God, feel His presence and not have a clue as to why. God says, prophesy to the wind and we do, believing, knowing there are those that will hear and be attracted. We also know the Lord will watch over His Word to perform it if they are interested, and see to it that they are fed even more. In other words, God despises Satan's world, but He loves His creation caught up in it!

Thankfully all creation will be set free as the Lord's children begin to appear on the planet.

Romans 8:19-21

19 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.

20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope;

21 because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

These will be ones that are the manifestation of the knowledge of God. Knowledge gleaned from all the moves of God over the 7000 years from the garden to the year 2000 AD, plus they eagerly receive the new revelation and

insight God has preserved for this end time, the eighth day. This knowledge will bring all of those that love it and are shaped by it back into sync with the universe as in the beginning.

Ephesians 1:9-10

9 having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself,

10 that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.

This is God's promise to all those conformed to the image of His Son!

Ephesians 1:11

11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

So in closing, if we want to be ones set aside for the Master's work, ones that will be here when the evil is removed to build the new heaven and new earth then we must allow Him to mold us into the image of Christ. We must see ourselves through the eyes of our Creator. Is our spirit manifesting the fruit of

His Spirit?

Galatians 5:22-23

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness,
goodness, faithfulness,

23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

Does the desires of our soul man reflect the world or the Kingdom of God?

Romans 12:2

2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Is our body dressed in trendy clothes following Satan's plan to disqualify us at the final harvest?

James 4:4

4 Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

Who do we use our spirit, soul and body to serve? Self or God's Kingdom?
When we look in the mirror, who do we see?

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