



Daily Verse and Comment

1 Peter 1:2

(2) Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

King James Version

Peter comments on God's operations in this sphere of His work. *The King James Study Bible* has an interesting note about the intent of this verse: "This is not merely advanced knowledge of, but when connected to 'before the foundation of [the world](#),' [[Ephesians 1:4](#)] it means [God](#) determined in *eternity* past to bring certain *ones* of His creation into a special relationship with Him and each other at specific times" (emphasis added).

Consider the construction of a large building. As a new building is erected, the workers follow blueprints made by architects, engineers, designers, and draftsmen. Every detail of what is being built—where it sits on the property, perhaps ten thousand individual dimensions, water pipes, sewer lines, specifications of the foundation, composition of the flooring, steel columns, girders, electrical lines, conduit, brackets to support pipes, roofing materials, the color and composition of paints both inside and out, etc.—is determined, designed, and drafted on the plans before the actual construction began.

In principle, is this not a human form of God knowing the end from the beginning? Does this not compare to God appointing beforehand or predetermining when, where, and who does what? If men can do this on a small scale, why cannot God do this on an immensely more massive and complex scale with His vastly superior mind? Is not God's intellect of such magnitude that He can easily do this ([Romans 11:33-36](#))? Does He not have sufficient time to plan, prepare, and bring these things to pass ([Isaiah 57:15](#))? Dare we even think of Him as getting tired or wandering from the purpose He established for Himself ([Psalm 121:3-4](#))?

Even so, do not get the impression that He does not react to how we use our free moral agency. If He did not react, chapters like Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28 would not be necessary, for in these chapters He definitely says, "If you do this, I will do that." They obviously depict Him reacting to our choices. He contemplates and judges what we do. However, this in no way negates the fact that the Bible reveals Him as the Prime Mover in His creation, always in control even in what we consider bad circumstances that directly affect us.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[God's Sovereignty and the Church's Condition \(Part One\)](#)

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