

1 Peter Series

Lesson #009

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Dean Bible Ministries

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CHOICE; FOREKNOWLEDGE

1 PETER 1:1



1ST PETER

**LIVING IN LIGHT
OF ETERNITY**

1 Pet. 1:1, “Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,

1 Pet. 1:2, “elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.”

elect

according to the
foreknowledge of God the
Father [the standard]

in sanctification of the Spirit
[the means]

for obedience and sprinkling
of the blood of Jesus Christ
[the purpose]

1. Greek words

ἐκλέγομαι *eklegomai* pick out for oneself, choose (out); choose out a person or thing from a sizeable number. 20×

ἐκλεκτός *eklektos* elect, chosen. 22×

ἐκλογή *eklogē* picking out, election, selection. 7×

English word meanings

elect – appointed, designated, determined.

choice (OED) – something of very good quality, excellent, the best, special, valuable.

select v. – carefully choose as being the best or most suitable,

adj. carefully chosen from a larger number as being the best.

בְּחִיר *bachir* **chosen, choice, select, most
excellent one**

Judg. 20:16, “Among all this people were seven hundred choice men who were left-handed; every one could sling a stone at a hair’s breadth and not miss.”

“choice almonds”
sheqadim mobecharim



3. The importance of corporate identity in relation to Israel and the Church.

4. Back to the Greek words

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ἐκλεκτός *eklektos* elect, chosen. 22×

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Matt. 22:14, “For many are called, but few are chosen [CHOICE].”

Isa. 61:10, “I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, My soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.”

Matt. 21:43, “Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation [to people] bearing the fruits of it.”

Mark 13:20, “And unless the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake, whom He chose, He shortened the days.”

Luke 6:13, “And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles:”

John 6:70, “Jesus answered them, ‘Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?’ ”

John 13:18, “I do not speak concerning all of you. I know whom I have chosen; but that the Scripture may be fulfilled, ‘He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me.’ ”

Luke 9:35, “And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, ‘This is My beloved [chosen in some MSS] Son. Hear Him!’ ”

Luke 14:7, “So He told a parable to those who were invited, when He noted how they chose the best places, saying to them:”

Acts 6:5, “And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch,”

Acts 15:22, “Then it pleased the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas, namely, Judas who was also named Barsabas, and Silas, leading men among the brethren.”

Acts 1:24, “And they prayed and said, ‘You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which of these two You have chosen,’ ”

Acts 13:17, “The God of this people Israel chose our fathers, and exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm He brought them out of it.”

Acts 15:7, “And when there had been much dispute, Peter rose up and said to them: ‘Men and brethren, you know that a good while ago God chose among us, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe.’ ”

Acts 15:25, “it seemed good to us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,”

1 Cor. 1:27, “But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;

1 Cor. 1:28, “and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are,”

James 2:5, “Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?”

Eph. 1:4, “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 chose us *to be* in Him?

Or

Before the foundation of the world, He chose us *who are [or would be] in Him* that we should be blameless...

elect



according to the
foreknowledge of God the
Father [the standard]

in sanctification of the Spirit
[the means]

for obedience and sprinkling
of the blood of Jesus Christ
[the purpose]

Moo, *Romans*;

“In the six occurrences of these words in the NT, only *two* mean ‘know beforehand’ (Acts 26:5, cited above, and 2 Pet. 3:17); the three others besides the occurrence in this text, all of which have God as their subject, mean not ‘know before’—in the sense of intellectual knowledge, or cognition—but ‘enter into relationship with before’ or ‘choose, or determine, before’ (Rom. 11:2; 1 Pet. 1:20; Acts 2:23; 1 Pet. 1:2)... If, then, the word means ‘know intimately,’ ‘have regard for,’ this must be a knowledge or love that is unique to believers and that leads to their being predestined”

Thomas Schreiner, *Romans*

“Some have argued that the verb προέγνω (*proegnō*, he foreknew) here should be defined only in terms of God’s foreknowledge. That is, God predestined to salvation those whom he saw in advance would choose to be part of his redeemed community. *This fits with Acts 26:5 and 2 Pet. 3:17, where the verb προγινώσκειν clearly means ‘to know beforehand.’* According to this understanding predestination is not ultimately based on God’s decision to save some. Instead, God has predestined to save those whom he foresaw would choose him. Such an interpretation is attractive in that it forestalls the impression that God arbitrarily saves some and not others. It is quite unlikely, however, that it accurately represents the meaning of προγινώσκειν when the reference is to God’s foreknowledge.”

Palmer, et al; *The Five Points of Calvinism*

“When the Bible speaks of God knowing particular individuals, it often means that He has special regard for them, that they are the objects of His affection and concern.”

Liddell, Scott, Jones. *Greek English Lexicon*

- 1. —know, perceive, learn, or understand beforehand, prognosticate, foreknow, learn things in advance.**
- 2. judge beforehand.**

BAGD

① to know beforehand or in advance, have foreknowledge (of) τί something.

② choose beforehand τινά someone, Rom. 8:29; Rom. 9–11; 1 Pe.t 1:20.—Know from time past Acts 26:5

Moulton, Milligan:

To “foreknow,” “know previously”; Notes that Hort thinks 1 Pet. 1:20 means to designate before.

Zodhiates

To perceive or recognize beforehand, know previously, take into account or specially consider beforehand, to grant prior acknowledgement or recognition to someone, to foreknow.

- (I) *Used of mere prescience, to know before (Acts 26:5; 2 Pet. 3:17).*
- (II) Used of God's eternal counsel. It includes all that He has considered and purposed to do prior to human history. In the language of Scripture, something foreknown is not simply that which God was aware of prior to a certain point. Rather, it is presented as that which God gave prior consent to, that which received His favorable or special recognition. Hence, this term is reserved for those matters which God favorably, deliberately, and freely chose and ordained.

NIDNTT: “The corresponding noun *prognōsis* (attested as a medical technical term since Hippocrates) denotes the foreknowledge which makes it possible to predict the future.”

Acts 26:5, “They knew me [knew beforehand] from the first, if they were willing to testify, that according to the strictest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee.”

Rom. 8:29, “For whom He foreknew [knew beforehand], He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.”

Rom. 11:2, “God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew [knew beforehand]. Or do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel, saying,”

1 Pet. 1:20, “He indeed was foreordained [known beforehand] before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you”

2 Pet. 3:17, “You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked;”

Acts 2:23, “Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;”

1 Pet. 1:2, “elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.”

Acts 26:5, “They knew me [knew beforehand] from the first, if they were willing to testify, that according to the strictest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee.”

Heb. 6:9, “But, beloved, we are convinced of better things concerning you, and things that accompany salvation, though we are speaking in this way.”

1 Pet. 1:20, “He indeed was foreordained [known beforehand] before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,” [NKJV]

1 Pet. 1:20, “He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.” [NIV]

NASB; NET; have “foreknown”

1 Pet. 1:18, “knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers,

1 Pet. 1:19, “but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

1 Pet. 1:20, “He indeed was foreordained [known beforehand] before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,”

2 Pet. 3:17, “You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked;”