

- No one can come to Jesus
- Unless it is given to that person by the Father
- Jesus knew from the beginning
- Those who would not believe
- For this reason, God grants them salvation

What are some other things that might come under God's foreknowledge?

*"And you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who **endures to the end will be saved.**" (Mark 13:13)*

God assuredly knows those who will remain faithful to Him until the end! As is stated in the Scripture above, is one endures to the end, they will be saved.

Since God knows everything, it is safe to conclude that His foreknowledge includes the believer's enduring faithfulness.

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### Grace And Faith

*"By whom also **we have access by faith** into this **grace** wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."* (Romans 5:2)

Biblically, grace and faith are inseparable. Grace and faith are required throughout our salvation. We access God and His grace through faith. Faith makes God's grace available to us. Faith provides the way to God's keeping power!

Salvation begins with grace and faith:

*"For **by grace** are ye saved **through faith**; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: (9) Not of works, lest any man should boast."* (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Salvation is kept by grace and faith:

*"Who are **kept** by the **power of God through faith** unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." (1 Peter 1:5)*

Salvation is completed by grace and faith:

*"Receiving the **end of your faith**, even the **salvation** of your souls." (1 Peter 1:9)*

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Conclusion:

As with all sound doctrine, the Bible must be the source. This question is no different than any other Christian teaching...the Scripture has the answer!

Go to the Word of God!

*"And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto **Berea**: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews. (11) These were **more noble** than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and **searched the scriptures daily**, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:10-11)*

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*"And it shall come to pass, that **whosoever** shall call on the name of the Lord **shall be saved.**" (Acts 2:21)*

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The Age Old Question

This question has been asked throughout the ages in many different ways. The following are some examples of how this question has been asked:

How can a loving God send people into eternal hell?

If God knows everything, and He is the Creator, why does He create people that He knows will reject Jesus and go to hell?

How can God pick some people to go to Heaven and the rest He chooses to send to hell?

It is a challenging thing to ponder. Problems arise when we consider it from the limitations of human understanding, or when we look at it with pre-conceived ideas.

At times, we think we have the answer. Other

WHY DOES GOD SAVE SOME?

times, we are confused and disheartened.

We are contemplating a Bible doctrine. Where is it that we should go to develop and understand sound doctrine?

*“**All scripture** is given by inspiration of God, and is **profitable for doctrine**, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: (17) That the man of God may be **perfect**, thoroughly furnished unto all **good works**.”*
(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

As the Word of God tells us, the answer to this question must be found in the Scriptures. All sound doctrine must find its source in the Bible.

As such, we will examine God’s Word to learn the answer to the question, **“Why does God save some people?”**

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### The Basis Upon Which God Chooses

What is the foundation on which God **“elects”** some people unto salvation and rejects others? There must be a reason.

Some have the idea that God’s election is the arbitrary will of God. Others think it is the result of man’s free will choices.

What does the Bible say about it?

*“**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.”* (1 Peter 1:2)

*“For whom he did **foreknow**, he also did **predestinate** to be conformed to the **image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.”* (Romans 8:29)

From the Scriptures, it appears that the primary condition upon which God establishes His election is **His foreknowledge**.

1 Peter 1:2 tells us that God’s election is in accordance with His foreknowledge. The next question we need to answer is, **“What does God know?”** (or what does He foreknow). We will examine this in the next section.

What we should look at here is the question, **“What does ‘according to’ mean?”** Here is part of the definition of the Greek word used in this verse:

*“κατά kata... in varied relations (according to the case ... with which it is **joined**):”*

God’s election is **joined together** with His foreknowledge.

Below are some other observations connected with God’s election.

**Sanctification** - God’s foreknowledge includes knowing that the Holy Spirit will sanctify the elect.

**Obedience** - He also knows that this sanctification will lead to compliance.

**Blood of Jesus Christ** - His foresight also includes knowing that the elect will call upon the Name of the Lord in faith, securing the application of the Blood of Jesus.

The Bible is clear. God’s choice is **not** separate from His omniscient **foreknowledge**.

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What Does God Foreknow

*“Known unto God are **all his works** from the beginning of the world.”* (Act 15:18)

*“He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, **thou knowest all things**; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.”* (John 21:17)

The above Scriptures make it clear that God knows **everything**. How would it be possible that the Creator of everything, might not know everything?

When Peter tells us in 1 Peter 1:2 that God’s election is joined together with His foreknowledge, an important question must follow.

“What does God foreknow? Specifically, in regards to salvation?”

“But there are some of you who do not believe.” (For Jesus **knew from the beginning** who those were **who did not believe**, and who it was who would betray him.) (65) And he said, **“This is why** I told you that **no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father.**” (John 6:64-65)

With regards to salvation... to coming to Jesus, He knew who would not believe! This is one of the critical elements of God’s foreknowledge.

Note what is included in this passage: