



The CLARITY Series

Herb Paynter

PREWIRED
Called, Chosen
and Predestined

You were created and designed for this purpose.

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Introduction

Predestination is a topic that has been heatedly debated amongst theologians for millennia. The Calvinist groups on one side claiming that God alone determines who will be saved and the Armenians shooting back with “whosoever will” rhetoric. We’ve all heard the discussions and read the arguments. While the war continues, little real attempt is made to resolve the conflicted wording and support text.

Called, chosen, elect, and predestined seem “destined” to remain unresolved.

At present, there is an entrenched debate concerning the meaning of these words and their scriptural interpretation, and all sides are staunchly bunkered behind their denominational fortifications with all open discussion abandoned.

Unfortunately, this stalemate leaves this very critical issue largely unresolved, with all parties reluctantly agreeing to disagree and go back to their respective corners. Believers, whether leaning Calvinistic or Armenian, all agree in the necessity of man’s faith in the sacrificial blood of Christ as the atonement for mans’ sin but they cannot agree on the origin of the faith required.

My personal resolve on this issue doesn’t matter in the end. What is important is that every person have the opportunity to hear of God’s love and respond to that truth. In the end, all believers are members in the

same army, are under the same Commander in Chief, and are waging war against the same enemy.

Whether you believe you were recruited or simply believe you enlisted of your own free will is immaterial to me. What is really important is what you do with your life as a servant of Jesus Christ.

This study will focus on a different aim point for the debated terms and related passages that could just let us see beyond the soteriology (study of the doctrine of personal salvation) issue and address the common ground that is hiding in plain sight.

The enemy has managed to lure the army of God into a distracting debate, while missing a very critical truth that should be motivating all believers.

Created on Purpose

Every person who has ever drawn breath has shared a common desire, we want our lives with purpose; we want to mean something to someone and have a positive ministry in the lives of others. The first sound of a newborn baby is a cry for recognition and personal fulfillment. The baby doesn't understand what his need is, but he knows that his need for attention is real. This same hunger and need for *something* continues to drive each of us throughout our lives.

We know that something is missing in our lives though we cannot clearly define what *that* is. God planted this hunger for personal fulfillment and meaning in our souls at birth; a yearning for a unique and meaningful life. If you have felt this personal emptiness at times in your life, *you are normal!* That hunger was put into your soul for a reason. One thing is sure... your birth wasn't just the inevitable result of a biological process, you were appointed to be here on Earth at this specific time.

We all want to please God and we want Him to be pleased with us. As believers, we know that God loves us and that we are eternally secure in His love, but we instinctively know that there must be a bigger purpose for our lives than a scramble for success and survival. But what is it?

What you are about to read should answer that question for you. You *know* that Christ died for you, but do you *know* that God has designed a unique life

for you? He has! If you thought that going to heaven was the ultimate gift of God, hold onto your hat. Your understanding of God's *purpose* is about to get even more personal. You have been literally predestined to play a designed role in this life... and one that will significantly impact the next! You were designed to be an active participant in God's plan, and not just in a general way. The Bible makes this unmistakably clear.

God put you on this Earth on purpose... *His* purpose. God actually assigned you a life-purpose before He assigned you a life! You are not here by accident and your life is not just a treasure hunt for personal fulfillment. You are here because God *put* you here— on purpose. He gave you an individual calling that includes daily involvement in His grand plan, and if you are listening carefully, you'll learn to hear His agenda for you roll-out *every day*.

God's Holy Spirit has been streaming very specific nudges, prompts, and directions to your human spirit from the very first moment you trusted Christ as your personal Savior; you just may not have realized them as such. If you've been looking for a meaningful life, don't look any further. God has a big plan, and your name is all over it.

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