

## **FOREKNOWLEDGE**

### **An open letter to John Piper**

*“Those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His Son”*

Romans 8: 29

Predestination is based upon foreknowledge and foreknowledge is based upon the predestined plan. In other words, God knew before He created this earth, exactly what would happen. He just knows those things. If you can imagine a man standing over an area where a small creature was standing, He can stand over both sides of the animal's territory. God likewise, is standing before time began and is standing already at the end. So in His foreknowledge, Christ had already been crucified from the foundation of the earth. We were forgiven from the foundations of the earth. But for us, this life is still to unfold and it's not that before God created the world, this life had already happened, but that His foreknowledge had already covered all that can happen. For He is beyond time and if He is beyond time then there are no limits to what He can know. Thus because of His unfathomable foreknowledge, it is not that He has made everything happen, like the evil that happens in this world, but that He knows beforehand what will happen.

Jesus states this in His words, *“see I have told you beforehand”* (Matthew 24: 25). That is His foreknowledge. Thus, He does not predestinate some souls to hell and some to heaven, but that because of His foreknowledge, He knows who will go to hell and who will not. So the pre-destined plan includes those whom He foreknew would believe on Him and in Him and would turn and repent that they may be forgiven. For there is no forgiveness without repentance.

Thus, when His foreknowledge formed the predestined plan, it was not that the predestined plan was meant to exclude souls, He had created purposely to go to hell, but that it made a way for those who would believe in and on Him. That based upon His foreknowledge He elected those whom He foreknew would believe on Him and in Him and that the purpose of election might stand. For we know that no one can be elected to a high position without the elected hand of a much higher authority and a cloud of witnesses.

A priest cannot be made a priest without the election of a ruling body to give him authority over the people. He cannot elect himself, lest he be unauthorised, and an illegitimate son of an illegitimate king. This is why Jesus said *“without Me you can do nothing”* (John 15: 5). For without His election, based upon predestination, which is based upon foreknowledge, no one can elect himself, he must be taken to his position by a ruling authority. A governing body and a cloud of witnesses.

Thus, even though a man may be born to be a king, by his inheritance, he does not become an actual King until his predestined election comes to pass. And he is willing to take up his position and become who he was born to be.

This is why Jesus said, *“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem... how I have longed to gather you under My wings like a hen gathers her chicks, but you were not willing.”* (Matthew 23: 37)

Today I was standing beside a small water flow in the mountains and I put my hands in the water, to put on my face to cool my brow and a frog was made visible. I loved the frog and still do and so I attempted to hold the frog in my hands to see its beauty, but it would not come. It hid away, it attempted to cover itself. But because I wanted to see the frog I lifted its cover and finally picked it up. But it still was not willing that I should draw near to it, lest it die.

This is because the nature of the creature, it is not part of the created being to be held in my hands.

The creature must have a change of nature in order for it to draw near to me as I draw near to it. This is why God promised that He would give the people a new heart and take away their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh, but some hearts hardened through unbelief and although the Lord waits patiently as He did for over 100 years in the days of Noah, His patience is tested and His judgement must come upon those who resist Him, through unbelief.

The Lord hated Esau because he sold his birthright for a plate of lentils and some stew. It is not that the Lord hated him before he was born, but that He hated him because he gave away his inheritance for the needs of the body. For, man loves his sins and that is his nature. And just as a fly is caught by a trout on a river, so too is man caught up by his sin which God hates. Thus it is out inheritance to come to Jesus and repent, but so many do not come for they resist and long to sin, according to their nature.

Thus Jesus did not die for some and not for others, He died for every son born of Adam, both Jew and all the nations, a term known as the Gentiles. As it is stated in the prophets, for “*each one has gone his own way and the Lord has laid upon Him the iniquity of us all.*” (Isaiah 53: 6) Notice that the prophet said “*the Lord has laid upon Him...*” for it speaks once again of His foreknowledge, for the Lord had already laid upon Him the iniquity of us all. That is every child of God, born as a son of Adam, who was a son of God, created out of the created earth, as a potter creates a cup from which flows whatever the cup contains.

All have drunk from this cup, that is every human being that has ever lived and the Lord has laid upon Jesus, the sins of every man, woman and child who has ever lived. But if a son of Adam repenteth not, then he has no sorrow for his condition and God will not forgive him, for he does not believe in Jesus for he does not see that he is in need of Him. For a man who believes he can swim a lake sees no need for anyone to save him. For he does not believe that he may be about to drown. But if he sees by some kind of foreknowledge that his death will come soon, then he would embrace a saviour who would save him from swimming upon the devils lake, but if they are self righteous then they see no need for a saviour.

When Christ was on the earth, He only made His presence known, He approached no one, the people drew near to Him. This is because the Father who sent Him, was drawing them to Him. That when He was to be lifted up, He would draw all men unto Himself, not a few only, or those who He, based upon His foreknowledge did predestinate in a plan, so that His election might stand, but that all men might come to Him and repent, for, “it is not His will that any should perish but that all should come to a knowledge of the the truth.”

Does God have two wills? Thus having two wills with salvation or does He only have one will concerning salvation, that no one should perish, but that every man, woman and child should come to Him. And if not, does that mean that God has failed? since He came to save the whole world? Well, no, not at all. For God is beyond failure. Failure does not even come into His mind, for He is self sufficient and needs nothing from us, as Paul says. But it is man who has failed and not God. For a man who sets out to accomplish as work, and does not complete his work, he has failed. But God did accomplish His work and Jesus testified to this when He said, “*It is accomplished*” (John 19: 30)

Thus, if a man resists the grace of God, then he himself has failed, and is responsible for his own death and destruction. For we know that all men deep down desire to go to heaven and why would God put this desire in every man, woman and child, if they were not permitted to go there? That would make the giver of the desire to be a fool. No, no, I say this, it is only those who think they can deny heaven to some and offer it to others who are the fools.

Who in offering a man a load of bread would give him a stone? Why then would Jesus command His apostles and us to preach the Gospel to all creatures if only to cast it back in their faces? For Jesus is the bread of life, and I say it again, who would offer a man a loaf of bread and give him a stone?

For such would be like the Jewish people of old who denied salvation for the nations for they at that point proclaimed themselves the chosen people and thus excluded anyone else from entering into the promise land and thus their hearts were hardened and scales were put over their eyes. For, although it was written "*this is the King of the Jews*" (Matthew 27: 37, Mark 15: 27, Luke 23: 38, John 19: 19) by a ruling elected governor, they could not see that it was written in three languages, 'Hebrew, Greek and Latin' and they ordered it taken down, because they did not believe and the languages in which it was written speaks of His death for all Israel, made known to us in the language of the Hebrews, the Greeks and the ancient Latin of the Romans. Thus all the nations were grafted in and He is the King of them all and His death was for them all.

So I ask again, would Jesus, the bread of life offer Himself to all men upon the earth, as testified to in the great commission, only to give them a stone?

No, I say this, only the devil does such things and he did so when he cast a stone before the tempted Christ and said 'make this stone become bread' for as Christ was tempted, so are all men constantly tempted day and night by both their own sin and Satan himself.

It is written, that false teachers will use the Godliness '*as a means of financial gain*' (1 Timothy 6: 5). Likewise, that they will use you or '*make merchandise of you*' (2 Peter 2: 3) They want payment for everything, for preaching, for shepherding the flock, for learning, for books, for weddings, for funerals. They have power, they have fame, they heap up for themselves disciples who follow after them. Their lifestyles are wealthy, they have price tags on their books, their CD's, they put a price tag on God's so-called eternal truth. If they loved the people as they claim to do, then why do they minister to them for money rather than for love?

Some may say, '*the labourer is worthy of his hire*' (1 Timothy 5: 18), but this is not a mere supply of food and drink for which a man may work, as it is written, "*If a man does not work he does not eat*" (2 Thessalonians 3: 10) but they make this all about money. Thus, I, fail to see why they call themselves Christians since they do not live as Christ did live. A humble carpenter and craftsman by trade, yet when ministering had "*no where to lay His head*" (Matthew 8: 20, Luke 9: 58)

Likewise as Peter, a strong minded Fisherman, who worked his trade, but when ministering was imprisoned and was beaten and crucified as our Lord said so. (John 21: 18)

Yet these men are exalted above even God Himself, since they favour their teaching of the Word of God, even over the Word of God itself. They delight in their creeds, they delight in the doctrines, yet they do not delight when the Scriptures speak contrary to them.

Yet they do not do as Christ did when He said '*if I have spoken evil, then bear witness against Me*' (John 18: 23) but no, they defend themselves and their positions contained in their books. For if the Scriptures do prove their errors then their means of financial gain will fall to the ground. Their credibility will be shaken. To deal with contrary passages, they re-interpret them to suit themselves. As did Mr Whitefield when he clearly compromised the truth when he favoured the slaved trade for financial reasons. It is clear who is their God or at least their passions. It is their ministries and their own lives for if they did care about their fellow man as they claim to do, then they would do more than talk about truth while not speaking it.

A preacher preaches and gives away large amounts of his earning from the preaching and income from his books, and does so merely for merely public display. For if he did it for Godliness, he would do so quietly and with no one even knowing about it. But no, they sit on their elevated thrones and declare their so-called lifestyles, by saying that such is a witness. And if such was done so that souls would follow an example set down by Jesus, then they would not merely do so that their status may be seen as humble. They preach a sermon on national networks and then they follow it by commercial advertising, as though by reading their books and comments, the people would find the truth. Yet why do they not direct people to the word of God, but rather their interpretation of it?

It is good that if a man is to work all the hours that God sends, that he should receive the things needful for the body and for healthy living as is God given. Food, clothing and a shelter from the storm, rain and sunshine and snow. Such things money is not always needed if it is provided. Yet these people have their provisions but it is not enough. For without their empires their kingdoms and their books, they are not content to live humble and constantly ask for money. If not by a word then by a deed and if not by a deed then by themselves being a mere advertisement of their works.

If they desire a house in the country or a better bed than the one they have, then it is far more Christ like that they get for themselves a trade out of which they are free to do as they please with their earnings. Then if you were to say that their writings are a trade then it is nothing more than an institutionalised business, which we all know is not about the truth but about wealth prosperity appearance of well being and power. Is this not why they constantly bombard the people with their books and their sermons and their ideas? For they know if the people were to read the Bible for themselves and not read into the Bible things that do not really exist beyond their imaginations and they would see just how broad their interpretations really are.

They say it is not enough to merely take a plain meaning in its actual context, but you need to get underneath or their ideas will not stand the test. But sheep will by nature follow a shepherd. But if the shepherd does not follow the rules laid down to him, but leads the sheep into dangerous grounds then he is no shepherd at all, but a wolf who pretends to be one of them and for them. For if a shepherd of the flock of Jesus, does not lead people into the truth of the Holy Spirit, but rather into his opinions upon the things of the Spirit then he is not leading them to safety but to the fallible words of man and not the infallible word of the Holy Spirit. As Paul says, '*we did not come to you with persuasive words but with the demonstration of the Spirit in word and in power*' (1 Corinthians 2: 4).

But, they would deny this meaning in favour of their dearly beloved teachers who have replaced God in their hearts and filled their minds with theirs. A golden idol has replaced the truth in their hearts and deceived their minds with what is merely 'called holy' and good. But goodness only comes from God and not from men, '*for the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked*' (Jeremiah 17: 9)

The natural man suppresses the truth in favour of the lie, thus, if the natural speaks, which is in all and will remain in all until death, then he is speaking in error and not in the spirit of truth. For the intellect cannot move beyond its own thinking. And its own think remains a stumbling block to him. Thus, the things of the Spirit will be inconsistent to him for the natural man cannot understand the things of the Spirit. Thus, if he has the Spirit and the things of the Spirit are spoken to him, it will awaken him and he will come to a knowledge of the truth. But if the things of the intellect are constantly bombarded to him, it will only lead to more and more error and this error will place a wall between the Spirit of error and the Spirit of truth. And it is not until this wall is broken down that he can see clearly to what sits upon the other side.

Thus, it is not that he does not have the Holy Spirit, but that he has quenched the Spirit by putting faith in his own intellect. Thus, intellectualism is not wrong for God created it, but if intellectualism stands alone and does not rely upon the actual presence of the Spirit then a man's faith is his own intellect and will lead him astray. This is what happens with those who deny the grace of God by saying that Christ died for them only, or for a few. For their own intellect has become a stumbling block to them and they understand not the grace of God, but use their so-called election (unconditional) as a license for their immorality and deception, for they understand not that the grace of God is the cross of Christ and not only their so-called "unconditional election" which is part of Gods predestined plan for those who believe.

I say this, that only children do childish things, and only children do not understand the world of adults. But thanks to God and to adults, adults have already joined the world of adults.

Thus when it is mentioned to the children of the promise that their shepherds do in fact lead them astray, they defend their shepherds in contrast to defending or upholding the truth of the good shepherd.

Who then is John Owen?  
Who then is John Piper?  
Who then is James White?

Are they not mere men who have let the truth slip by denying it for all in favour of an intellectual stumbling block. For professing to talk to God, is just talking to ones own self if we do not look at Him. But rather close their eyes and think. For as their greater predecessor once said, "there is no greater stumbling block to the spirit than a man's confidence in his own intelligence".

For does not the Scripture say, "*and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world*" (1 John 2: 2). So to understand this Scripture must we put faith in our own arguments which are based upon our own intellect or must we turn to the Holy Spirit whom Jesus said 'would lead us into all truth' or does this all not mean all? And thus leaving our intellect to fill the gap? Or does '*all*' mean '*all*' though the Word and the Spirit.

There are bigger problems to be faced, when inconsistency is a problem of your own heart. For to place confidence in your own intellect brings knowledge which "*puffs up*" and when one is puffed up he is found to be proud out of which pride brings forth arrogance and arrogance leads to death. For who is arrogant the one who honestly declares what the Scripture teaches or the one who denies it in favour of his own reasoning. It is an intellectual treat to him to be forever learning but never coming to a knowledge of the truth. But I assure you, as God is my witness, I have wept for you and I have cried for you and have prayed for you. For it is written, '*let not any of you desire to become teachers knowing that the teachers will receive a stricter judgement*' (James 3: 1) For I am content in knowing that you may not embrace the truth, because you put confidence in your own intellectual arguments which are inconsistent with Scripture. For in seeing you do not understand, in hearing you do not believe. For the crucifixion of Jesus is the grace of God and the drawing of all men unto Himself.

Jesus chose a simple fisherman like Simon Peter to take the Gospel out to all the world, yet the Pharisees with all their logic and additional books could not see what Peter saw, for it was written in the prophets, '*they shall all be taught of God*'. (John 6: 45)

Will the Holy Spirit work where sin has not been cleansed? No one was permitted to enter into the Temple where the Holy Spirit did dwell, until that man is made a priest, like Peter says '*you are a royal priesthood*' (1 Peter 2: 9) It was Christ, the Father and the Holy Spirit who draws, since they

are all one. And Acts 19: 2 confirms that many do believe but have not the Holy Spirit.

You see, foreknowledge even according to the Greek is 'thoughts' and so thoughts are not a plan. But a plan is based upon thoughts. Foreknowledge is thoughts which is not actual, but are by which we form a plan. That is what predestination is, it is a plan based upon foreknowledge (thoughts) which are not actual in an actual sense. But will be actual when the plan comes to pass.

Thus, God is standing outside of time, but we are born in time, thus, we are actually living now in the plan based upon foreknowledge, of which the predestined plan is based, and if these means which God has set before us are not met, then the appointed end will not be there.

For there is a surface and rather obvious heresy, that one need only the slightest sense to know the fallacy. But that one is only a mere distraction to take attention off the deeper more powerful deception. For even this deeper deception may in fact slander others for the same thing that the slanderers themselves are guilty of.

For they called out for another reformation for they assume that the reformation will meet their doctrines. In this they do greatly err, for they have wondered from the truth. For many review the reformation as a thing of the past yet, the consciences of the faithful are continuously vexed and flayed. Yet it is you who cause their consciences to be miserable. For to see one thing, yet you say another is to strain at a gnat and swallow a camel. For as the Lord said to Moses that He has heard the cry of His people and He commanded the Pharaoh let His people go. For it is the leaders who are destroying the Kingdom that He has promised.

Has God become a mere historical figure? Who cannot do again, what He did before? O, yes, He says this, that if He is as glorious as you say He is, then He can do anything and who are you to even speak otherwise. For I say this, the Lord said *'the Spirit of the Lord is upon me and He has appointed me to preach the good news to the poor, to give sight to the blind and to take away the sight of those who can see'*.(Luke 4: 18)

How dare any man suppress the truth in favour of a lie and slander the good name of the Lord as though He would condemn or predestinate any-man to hell without a trial. Such doctrines are poison and have infected you. For in the words of these doctrines you honour God, but your hearts are far from Him. For you have become lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God. And then you take away from the word of the Lord things needful to remain, even though the Lord has told you beforehand that if anyone adds or takes away I will add to him the plagues written in this book (Revelation 22: 18). You think too much, yet you feel too little for have you forgotten the Scripture that not one dot or tittle will be taken away till all be fulfilled? For it is written *'man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'* (Matthew 4: 4)

John, come home to the Lord, for in but a short time you will see God. For many will sneer, many will jeer, but great will you be in the sight of the Lord. Give them no longer what their itching ears want to hear, for it is not sound doctrine. But stand alone with those who will stand with you, as you will when you stand before God. For God does speak to mortal man, and who is mortal man to say otherwise.

Do you not think the answer to which Jonathan Edwards did so grovel at grasping is not here with you today, and all this time it has been blowing in the wind, and your love for Edwards has prevailed you from finding the answer.

John, this life is nothing in comparison to magnitude of the glory that is to come, that even the least of those in heaven will be greater than the earth and sky combined. So come unto the Lord

John and all of you who labour in word and in doctrine and I will give you rest. For although you will give an account and a judgement will begin, the inheritance for which you were born, is something that will never be destroyed, it is kept for you in heaven. For the fear you have within you, for you know the end is near, is within you for a purpose, for he who does no wrong need not fear the authorities, for he knows he has done no wrong.

His sheep hear His voice, that is so (John 10: 27). For all of us hear Him, if we believe in Him. The text has nothing to do with calling some sheep to Him, and others not, but that when He is our shepherd, we will follow Him and hear His voice. You see it has nothing to do with an evangelistic call and response, it's to do with Christians knowing the voice of Christ and no one is capable of taking them away from Him. The Calvinistic interpretation doesn't even fit the context.

For God in the same time calls them false prophets and yet at the same time He calls out to them. For this day you accuse yourselves by your own testimony that you are indeed false prophets, yet at the same time He calls out to you. You see many have called out for a reformation, assuming that they must take their doctrines so that others would reform their doctrines. Yet it is you who are now the authorities and it is you who need a reformer.

You see when we come to the cross of Christ, things change. The cross changes everything. It restores, it cleanses, it gives life, it covers sin, so likewise when you come back to the cross, you too will be cleansed and restored and your doctrine reformed.

We often read about the Pharisees and assume it to be written about them or someone else, when it was written about them and also as a warning to all of us. Then you say they were not His sheep, yet some of them believed as you (Acts 15: 5).

The same can be also said that by the 'obedience of Jesus, many more are made righteous' (Romans 5: 19) yet why assume that this does not relate to your obedience also. Yet through your obedience, in obeying the call of Jesus, you are one of His sheep.

Thus, as the Scripture says, '*since you have purified your souls in obeying the Truth... love one another*' (1 Peter 1: 22). And I say this, what kind of love is this? That a man should lay down His life for His friends. That although you do love your much loved teachers and doctrines they held and hold dear to, the gospel cannot be denied for the word of man. For I say this, that many of them have strived for what you now have. They sought it night and day, but it was not revealed to them but to a plough boy, that the word of God might be fulfilled. '*For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine but will heap up for themselves, teachers who will tell them what their itching ears want to hear*'. (2 Timothy 4: 3) Yet we do greatly assume that this Scripture is talking about other, but if we are guilty of the same thing it is talking about us.

For if we embrace wrong teaching and when we preach, seek to please the listeners, we stand guilty as accused and the love you have for your teachers and doctrines they did profess, has blinded your eyes to the truth. And I say, that just as the Lord rebuked the Pharisees, yet desired that none of them should perish, He does likewise rebuke you now. For His prayer, '*Father forgive them, they know not what they do*' has covered your sin.

You put the Scriptures first and the Spirit second, yet in actual fact the Spirit must come first and the Scriptures second, as it is written, '*You search the Scriptures and think you will find life in them*' (John 5: 39). But you don't go to Christ first. For the Spirit searches all things. (1 Corinthians 2: 10)

Yet is spending time with Christ alone a demonstration of our love for Him or our need for Him?

How often we delude ourselves if we think we are spending time with Christ when we are actually spending time with books. For there is only one mediator between God and man and books are not included in that. For if we think we spend time with Christ when we are actually spending time with books we delude ourselves. For if we love someone we will not be able to be apart from that someone. And if we do we lack passion for that person, how can we be like them.

For to be like Christ is Christ likeness, and it is Him we follow and not men. So do not fear them John, for Paul has already warned us that the time will come when they will be brutal, lovers of pleasure, for it is not the praises of men we seek, but obedience to the Gospel. And the Gospel is this that, *'For God so loved the world that whosoever would believe in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.'* (John 3: 16)

Thus, the more universal we make these great words the nearer we come to the mind of Christ. For it is written, *'for many are called but few are chosen'* (Matthew 22: 14)

I say this, the Westminster confession could be wrong, salvation could exist outside of God's elect, though not outside of Christ. And although the Westminster confession affirmed that, these words (it says) are only applied to God's elect.

For any choice that a man may make is not based upon his depravity, but his need to flee from his depravity, for each man, be he in Christ or outside of Christ has the desire to do good, but has not the will to perform it. But if the road is set before him, that is the narrow road that leads to everlasting life,, why would he not embrace the offer, unless his love for sin keeps him captive, so that even his desire to live forever, is offered him, he rejects it because the wide road is much easier to walk down. But if he is assured that the narrow road will lead to a much better or greater thing than his current condition, thus he must be presented with something much better than his wealth and his pleasure and that being the desire that all men have, to live forever. Thus, his choice to embrace, is not based upon his will, but his inner desire for eternal life. So I ask this, why would God create a being who does desire to go to heaven if he is only permitted to go to hell?

For I say this, it is not God's predestined plan to send him to hell, but his total rejection of Jesus. And by this rejection of Jesus, his own words have justified him or his own words have condemned him. As it is written, *'by your own words you will be justified and by your own words condemned.'*

You see, it is not our duty to deny what is written, but to believe and obey it. For in doing this we must examine ourselves lest there be found in us a deceitful heart and a corrupted mind. For if we decipher what is written then it is not the Holy Spirit who is our teacher, but ourselves. And if you merely deliver what is written then the lion is let loose, and although they will condemn you and proclaim you a heretic, rest assured that you will stand in good company, for if one believes that Jesus Christ is Lord and that He died for the sins of the world is an inconsistent heresy, then I am the most inconsistent heretic who has ever lived.

For the time has come now for you to let go John and be free. To let go of all your beloved teachers and to walk freely into the undiscovered county, to when one goes, no traveller returns. For there are there prophets, their work will be over, is there knowledge, it will vanish away, but love will never come to an end. Therefore, walk in this love, a love where the true meaning of fasting can be found. For you are so in love with Christ that you cannot eat. Therefore, let us eat from the tree of life which is in the paradise of God. For many have sought this place, but few find it. And few find it because they search the Scriptures and think they will find life in them' but they will not, for they look for themselves and how they can be blessed. But a blessing will not come until they begin to believe and obey the very least of these little deeds.

Give what you have and sell it and give to the poor, for you have become wealthy and need nothing, yet you know not that you are pitiable, poor, blind and naked. For, remember when the Lord did instruct the disciples to take nothing with them, no bags, no nothing, it was for total dependence upon God and not their own understandings.

Remember how when Tyndale was imprisoned awaiting his own trial, he asked that he might be permitted his Hebrew Bible and his Hebrew dictionary, that the word of God might walk abroad amongst His fellow man. Not commentaries, and the like, but the word of God alone, that through it the Spirit would guide His people into all truth. That the Hebrew might serve the purpose of bringing the word into the language of the common man and not taking people away from it. For it is the Spirit alone who guides a man into all truth and He uses the text to do this, that the word of God might dwell in you richly. For the Lord does indeed work in mysterious ways His wonders to perform. For what dead man who having the option to come back alive again, would not embrace the offer. But if he is in heaven, what need would he have to return to the things of the earth.

For in the Old Testament it is the prophets who killed the false prophets, but in the New, it is the false ones who kill the true ones. For what we see as good, is not always good, but our depravity swaps things around a little.

For the nature of the creature does not always determine its actions, but the one who made it can determine what it can and cannot do. For just as Elijah was fed by Ravens, so also had he taken our sin from us, 'that whosoever believes upon Him should not perish, but have everlasting life' (John 3: 15). But if you believe not, you do not have life, and life cannot come unless the seed is planted. But it must be planted correctly. For before the seed is planted, the ground must be cultivated, and if the unclean tools are used, the growth can become corrupted, and if too much fertilizer is added the soil can become toxic and do more harm than good. So it is with too much knowledge, which puffs up and stumps the growth.

For He is the hen and we are His chicks, but if the chicks are not fed then the chicks will die. But who provides the food? The father hen or the mother hen? For does not a father know all of his children and does he not feed them. So who is it then that feeds us, the hen or her chicks? Can chicks feed themselves or must they be few. How is then that the church feeds you? Only to regurgitate it and spew it back again. And in doing so, would such not be mere vomit. Which if consumed would make one sick. Thus, the food which the hen gives to her chicks is for each one alone. And the chicks are not to feed each other with the food that was given them, that they may grow thereby.

For the hen alone will feed her chicks with the food that has been provided. But if the chicks feed each other, they will be eating mere vomit. And not solid substance. This is why Jesus compares Himself to a mother hen, for it is Jesus alone who must feed the chicks. But if they are not willing, He will not force feed them. But will leave them to their own destruction and they will die.

You see, the word of God stands alone and we are mere translators. For it is not our duty to decipher what is written but to merely deliver what is written, that the word of God might be shed abroad amongst the people. For no man is greater than his master.

For as Simon Peter was a fisher of men, so must he cast out his net on the right hand side, but if the net is not cast, then the fish cannot be drawn and if the net is not firmly made then many fish will escape and fall back into the depths, that is according to their nature. You see does a fish desire to be caught or does he merely take the bait. For when a fish is caught, he also dies. And if he knew he was going to die, he would not have taken the bait. But since the fisherman had such a strong woven net, and was made for all fish, none could escape. For there is nowhere for them to go but

back into the abyss. For there is none who can escape the reality of God and Jesus Christ who He has sent, *'who gave His life as a ransom for all'* (1 Timothy 2: 6) that *'whosoever should believe on Him should not perish but have eternal life'*. *'For faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God'* (Romans 10: 17). *'But how shall they hear without a preacher and how will anyone preach to them if no one is sent'* (Romans 10: 14).

For you see here that we have a divine calling that will only come when the means to an end are met. But if the appointed means are not met, the appointed ends will not be there. Thus the crucified saviour is the key and the way in which His death came about. This is why Moses put a sign or symbol of a serpent upon the cross, it was a sign of evil that man might choose according to his nature. For we do assume greatly when we think that what appears good to us, is in fact good, when it is not good at all but our depravity swaps things around a little.

For both choosing a murdered saviour and a promise of eternal life is not incompatible with human nature. For can anyone truly say that eternal life is not something that the depraved man does not strive for. I know not any man who desires to die. Thus, even the most hardened man and the chief of sinners is so often at war with himself and would like deliverance from his failings and short comings, and if eternal life were to be full of failings and of shortcomings, he might wish to die, but not if eternal life was to be free from them. And greater than this that the gift of life eternal is to be given him. And for such he needs to be given the ability to believe that *'man will live forever more'* and such is the gift of faith. Which is the God given ability to believe that God has fulfilled His promises. As Tyndale taught, if you believe by faith, then this faith justifies you.

For such is the purest rendering of both the Latin and the Greek. That faith once given is eternal, or one has not yet received it for the seed which is the word of God has not been planted correctly. Thus it cannot grow. But if the seed is planted correctly, and then it is watered, it is God who will make it grow. That is what is meant by the Scripture, *'it is God who works in you both to do and will for His good pleasure'* (Philippians 2: 13). Likewise *'I (Paul) planted the seed, Apollo's watered it, but God made it grow'*. (1 Corinthians 3: 6) But if the plougher fails in his workmanship, then there will be no harvest and if he sits inside his farmhouse and does not go out into the fields, he will not reap any rewards. This is why Paul told Timothy to *'do the work of an evangelist'* (2 Timothy 4: 5). For the farmer employs his workers, and commands them to go work the fields, and we must obey in simplicity and not argue against it as did Zacharias who was struck down because he *'believest not my words'* (Luke 1: 20)

For there are times when the Lord commands His people to do the most craziest of things that He might test their ways and their loyalty to Him. As He did with Abraham when He said *'now I know that you fear God'* (Genesis 22: 12) For he who obeys in the simplest of things will be given the highest of praise. That he in turn might give unto God, the highest of praise. That the glory of Him who died for us all might be glorified. For the time is coming when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God and will turn unto Him and give Him praise. For the Lord will raise up an army and His word will be written on their hearts and in their minds, for there is an east wind blowing, but it will not be cold but it may be bitter. And it will blow away the dark clouds of the sun and the dark storm clouds of the mind.

For it is this day which is the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation and it is time to return once again to the plain honest truth of Scripture. And not to trust in the arguments and words of men. For all men are liars and only God tells the whole truth. Thus, we cannot put trust in lying words lest we burn incense to Baal. For there are only 3 witnesses on earth, the Spirit, water and the blood. And these three agree but the testimony of man does not even agree with itself and its testimony is divided. But the testimony of God agrees as one.

For although we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is far greater. For every man is a living contradiction, partly truth and partly fiction. Thus, truth does make cowards of us all.

For the testimony of God says that salvation is offered freely to all men, yet the testimony of man says otherwise.

To put any argument or testimony of man over the clear testimony of divine Scripture, is both fatal and disastrous. For who is man to defend Christ as though if Christ did intend to save the world of men and man rejected Him, then has not Christ failed? yet the man who created this concept was military minded and political and has become a stumbling block to the truth. For it is both elementary and Godlike to say that failure does not enter the mind of our self sufficient God. He needs nothing from us, as Paul by Spirit does say (Acts 17: 25)

For the coming of the Lord Jesus was not a mere display of His mighty power to destroy or rule as man rules, but in sovereign grace and by laying down His majesty and commanding obedience to those who love Him. For in the days of old it was the inheritance of a man that he would choose his bride, that according to Jewish law and Moses, that a bride is a bride of whom her father says she is. But such is not so with the covenant God made with the gentiles, for according to gentiles, it is a harmonious agreement between the bride and groom that they should marry. Thus, if indeed the body of Christ is the bride of Christ, then it has become so by mutual agreement of the two and not the one. For each of us must obey the truth in keeping with righteousness. That all might be fulfilled. For the Son of God came to save the lost not condemn them without a trial.

For it is written '*the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men*' (Titus 2: 11) and this offering of Jesus has been seen as universal since the great commission. '*For as far as the east is from the west so far has He taken our sins from us*' (Psalm 103: 12). Thus, here we find no limits to its offer but only some kind of limit to its application.

For it would seem cruel for God to offer Himself freely to '*all*' if '*all*' were not permitted to receive Him. '*For by grace we have been saved*' (Ephesians 2: 8) and by this grace we have been made ready to receive Him by the Spirit. And as our great predecessor once said "no man is excluded from calling upon God, the gate of salvation is set open unto all men". For grace would not be grace if it were given only to some and not to others.

May God be with you.

Simon Peter Sutherland  
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