



## Some Bible Knowledge is Critical.

Most of the critical scriptural "dots" really DO "connect"  
 ...for those who learn how to study God's written word.  
 But most believers learn only what to study  
 ...to confirm denominational Doctrines.  
 This series can help.

- Series Intro
- 1 —Noah's Flood
- 2 —After Noah's Flood
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- 7 —**Who're the "Elect" and Why Were They "Elected?"**



The Bible tells us about many people of destiny throughout human history. What is it to be a person of destiny? Even before you were conceived in your mom's womb, God knew you. He knew the people of destiny well enough to have learned what they're capable of doing and the extent to which He can count on them to complete an assigned mission even when they're faced with lots of difficulty and strong opposition.

God "foreknew" the Bible people whom He predestined for good assignments and those He predestined for evil assignments. Several of the kings He sometimes used to punish the sister nations of Israel and Judah for their disobedience were predestined for evil assignments. He had observed their determination to do evil even before they were conceived. So He knew they'd be available to Him whenever He might need to leverage their evil mindsets and capabilities. Whether for good or for evil, the assignments God gave to the Bible people of destiny were for the purpose of accomplishing His perfect will on Earth. Given that, consider these four questions:

- (1) If those people were predestined for their assignments (good or evil) and if that was for the purpose of accomplishing God's will, did each of them have a free will? Could they have opted out of those assignments?
- (2) Where were they when God observed them to determine what their long-term mindsets and dependability were? Were they on some alien planet? Were they invisible spirits floating around in deep space or something? Or, were they "here?"
- (3) If that happened long before they were "born of water," were they in other-dimensional bodies like the one Jesus got at the moment of His resurrection...like the bodies we'll all get when we're "*changed*" in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye?"
- (4) When did God observe them? Because if that happened before any of them were even conceived, it has to have been during *an earlier time*.

While it's true that some people of destiny in the Bible were predestined for evil, most of the ones we know about were given important assignments for good. Here's what God said to one Old Testament man who was predestined for good:

- > "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified<sup>^</sup> thee, [and] I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations." —Jeremiah 1:5
- <sup>^</sup> To "sanctify" a person, in this context, means to set him apart for a specific and very important assignment—**based entirely upon previous observation**...to yield a substantial *foreknowing*.

It's clear to us and to many other Bible scholars that the 1st-Century Pharisee, Saul, who became the apostle, Paul, is a really good example of New Testament people of destiny. He, too, was sanctified (the same as being predestined) for very specific assignments—*before* he was "born of water." Did Saul have a free will after he became Paul? That's worthy of some serious contemplation, for sure! He certainly enjoyed exercising his free will BEFORE that blinding experience on his trip to Damascus...to kill a few more Christians. But, again, could Paul have opted out of his assignment after that amazing experience? These quotations of some of Paul's words may help you discover the Bible response to those questions:

- > "For this cause I Paul, the **prisoner**<sup>G-1198</sup> of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles..." —Ephesians 3:1
- > "...therefore, the **prisoner**<sup>G-1198</sup> of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called<sup>^</sup>..." —Ephesians 4:1
- <sup>^</sup> Does every believer have "a calling?" This link will take you to an interesting one-page article that should help you come up with a really good answer to that question: [www.dypk.org/BLOG/0104.pdf](http://www.dypk.org/BLOG/0104.pdf).
- > "Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his **prisoner**<sup>G-1198</sup>: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God." —2 Timothy 1:8
- > "Paul, a **prisoner**<sup>G-1198</sup> of Jesus Christ, and Timothy [our] brother, unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer..." —Philemon 1:1
- > "Yet for love's sake I rather beseech [thee], being such an one as Paul the aged, and now also a **prisoner**<sup>G-1198</sup> of Jesus Christ. " —Philemon 1:9

Strong's G-1198 is the Greek word, "desmios." Strong's definition of it is "bound, in bonds, a captive, a prisoner." The KJV translates it "prisoner" 14 times, "be in bonds" 1 time and "in bonds" 1 time.

But exactly HOW might God have known Jeremiah and Saul/Paul and you and me before we were conceived in our mothers' wombs? And what was it about people of destiny like Jeremiah and Paul before they were even conceived that caused God to "sanctify" them...or make **prisoners** of them to accomplish His will during this Second Earth Age? Were all the rest of the people who have ever lived (or who will ever live) on Earth also alive here in the First Earth Age? And, if we ALL have a free will, then what's all this scriptural talk about predestination and imprisonment?

- > "<sup>29</sup>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. <sup>30</sup>Moreover whom he did **predestinate**, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. —Paul, at Romans 8:29,30
- > "<sup>5</sup>Having **predestinated** us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will...<sup>11</sup>In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being **predestinated** according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will" —Paul, at Ephesians 1:5,11

Here's a scripture I had read many, many times...without noticing what it *really* says. It's Paul's introduction to the letter he wrote to the church people at Ephesus:

- > "Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, **AND to the faithful** in Christ Jesus:" —Ephesians 1:1

He was clearly addressing that letter to two (2) different groups of church people:

- (1) Much as for Paul, himself, God had predestined that first group (the saints) for specific assignments. Like Paul, they may or may NOT have had the free will to opt out. If YOU are one of the Elect, God knew He could count on you to complete your assignments even in the face of extreme difficulty and strong opposition. He knew that about you from His observation of your mindset and your behavior in *that earlier time*—before you were "born of water" into the flesh body of this Second Earth Age. Paul addressed that in his letter to the Romans—at verse 30 of chapter 8, above.
- (2) God had NOT predestined that second group (the faithful) for specific assignments. For whatever reason in that *earlier time*, they may not've demonstrated the exceptional qualities of mindset and behavior that God would need from "His Elect" in this Second Earth Age. But they had heard and believed the Gospel message and then decided – by their own free wills – to become faithful followers of Christ.

Critical Note: Believing in Christ and following Christ are NOT the same. Just one of them will qualify you as one of "the faithful" and get you Saved. Doubt that? "...the devils also believe and tremble." —James 2:19

That does NOT necessarily indicate that "the faithful" were EVIL in *that earlier time* on Earth, though. Although they were/are Christians of the free will and not among God's Elect, their decision to follow Christ yields the same Salvation for them that God's Elect will receive...after The Judgment. But their eternal rewards may or may not be as great as the rewards God has reserved for His Elect:

- > "For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works." —Jesus, at Matthew 16:27
- > "<sup>5</sup>...the righteous judgment of God; <sup>6</sup>Who will render to every man according to his deeds." —Paul, at Romans 2:5,6
- > "Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour." —Paul, at 1 Corinthians 3:8
- > "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things [done] in [his] body, according to that he hath done, whether [it be] good or bad. —Paul, at 2 Corinthians 5:10
- > "Therefore [it is] no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works." —Paul, at 2 Corinthians 11:15
- > "And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning [here] in fear." —1 Peter 1:17
- > "...and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works." —Jesus, at Revelation 2:23
- > "<sup>12</sup>...and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.  
<sup>13</sup>And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works." —John, at Revelation 20:12,13

- > "And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward [is] with me, to give every man according as his work shall be."  
—Jesus, at Revelation 22:12

It's true! Salvation is available to EVERYONE who has a belly button! Even if the New Testament "faithful" had been evil in *that earlier time*, they would've still been eligible for Salvation: At Romans 13:11 Paul wrote, "...for now [is] our salvation nearer than when we believed." There are some powerful implications in that. I'll address them at the end of this article...in the review section.

- > "And when he had called the people [unto him] with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." —Jesus, at Mark 8:34
- > "...And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." —Jesus, at Revelation 22:17

Those people without belly buttons were HERE during The First Earth Age—but like you and me, then, they were not in physical bodies. That's where and how they gained all the advanced technical and scientific knowledge they keep sharing with people in this Second Earth Age. You and I gained that same knowledge, then. The difference is that when you and I were "born of water" we were purposefully born WITHOUT that knowledge. Why do "the sons of God" keep sharing the knowledge they brought here with them? They do it because they covet admiration and worship as gods. And it has worked for them:

People all over our globe have worshipped them as gods. Those people have apparently acquired a strong passion for mating with them, too. Still today, many *spiritual* folk are enamored with angels. Some of those people (even today) worship them. Remember Joseph Smith's collaboration with the angel, Moroni, for the new "Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Latter Day Saints?" I sometimes catch myself wondering whether Mr. Smith might ever have considered naming his Mormon church to more accurately credit the angel, Moroni...

- > "But though we, or an angel from heaven preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." —Galatians 1:8

In each instance, God has only tolerated the rebellious breaches of "the sons of God" for a limited time. Then, per Jude 1:6, they're shackled in chains and thrown into prison to await the final judgment: "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day."

Here's something to ponder:

- > "But as many as received him, to them gave he **power to become the sons of God**, [even] to them that believe on his name" —John 1:12

Was John saying that God has given us power to become "fallen angels?" He wasn't and this is why: The phrase, "sons of God," is used throughout the scriptures to mean "angels." The term "angel"<sup>^</sup> has a much simpler meaning than most people think: It just means "messenger." The "sons of God"<sup>^</sup> who've been loyal to Satan since The First Earth Age deliver the disruptive messages of Satan. The "sons of God" who've been loyal to God since The First Earth Age deliver the helpful, productive and righteous messages of God.

- <sup>^</sup> The KJV word, "angel," in the Old Testament is from the Hebrew word, "mal'ak." It is Strong's H-4397, defined as a messenger or a representative.
- <sup>^</sup> Per Strong's G-32, the KJV word, "angel," in the New Testament is from the Greek word, "aggelos." Strong's definition of that word is "a messenger, envoy, one who is sent..."
- <sup>^</sup> The Old Testament KJV word, "sons," (as in "sons of God") is from the Hebrew word, "ben;" Strong's H-1121. The KJV translates it "son(s)" 2,978 times, "children" 1,568 times, "old" 135 times and "people" 5 times.
- <sup>^</sup> At John 1:12, "sons of God," is Strong's G-5043. It's from the Greek word, "teknon." The KJV renders it "child" 77 times, "son(s)" 21 times and "daughter" 1 time.

Satan was the person in charge here during The First Earth Age. He was called Lucifer then...a good guy! He was also the most perfect of all the people God had ever created. Here with him were all of God's other children, but we were in other-dimensional bodies (not flesh-and-blood bodies) then. Our First-Earth-Age other-dimensional bodies were probably just like – or very similar to – the other-dimensional body Jesus got at the moment of His resurrection...like the bodies we'll get when we're "*changed*" in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye. Here's an important reminder:

That'll be at "the last trump" of 1 Corinthians 15:51,52, "the trump of God" at 1 Thessalonians 4:16 and the trumpet of the seventh angel of Revelation 11:15. There is no scripture and no collection of scriptures that even imply that will happen for anybody at any time before that. Still, though, the "rapture" theory that first surfaced in a well-documented April, 1830 Occult environment has gained incredible popularity among churchgoers—especially in the U.S. southeastern Bible Belt. Satan

is using it to dupe misinformed, uninformed, naïve churchgoers and sympathizers with the visible church, worldwide. See 2 Timothy 4:3 for confirmation. THOSE people will be his easiest prey when he will (and the primary reason why he will be able to) successfully masquerade as Jesus Christ:

- > "1Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and [by] our gathering together unto him, 2That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. 3Let no man deceive you by any means: for [that day shall not come], except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; 4Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God." —Paul, at 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4
- ^ Yes; I know...The spiritual mentors of some readers have convinced them that the scriptural "son of perdition" is Judas. That notion came from Bible "experts" who hadn't done their homework: They weren't *experts* at all. Here's the link to an especially interesting, but short article that should tell you everything you'll need to know about that: [www.dypk.org/BLOG/0082.pdf](http://www.dypk.org/BLOG/0082.pdf).

Okay, so what's an other-dimensional body like? Jesus was able to appear and disappear and walk through walls and closed doors and such. But He was also able to eat real food and Thomas was able to see and feel Jesus' scar from the piercing of that spear into His side. So, Jesus' glorified other-dimensional body apparently looked very much like the flesh-and-blood body He lived in before His crucifixion.

The First Earth Age was literally Heaven on Earth. "The Kingdom of God" was here! At 1 Corinthians 15:50, Paul said this about our current physical bodies: "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God..." That's why none of us had flesh-and-blood bodies in The First Earth Age and it's also why we'll all exchange these physical bodies for other-dimensional bodies at that amazing twinkling-of-an-eye moment when The Second Earth Age ends and The Third Earth Age begins. Because "The Kingdom of God" will, again, be right here on planet Earth, there'll be no need for anybody to "fly away" ...to anywhere! ([www.DYPK.org/blog/0070](http://www.DYPK.org/blog/0070))

At some unknown point during The First Earth Age, Lucifer's celebrity status went to his head and he got cocky! He went off on a major ego trip and started acting like the devil!

Bible scholars are generally convinced that the following is the most complete biography of the fallen Lucifer/Satan in the entire Bible. Although it's clearly addressed to the King of Tyrus, the language of it suggests that it's *something more* than that—that the mindset of the King of Tyrus was an almost-duplicate of Satan's mindset:

- > "12Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. 13Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. 14Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. 15Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. 16By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. 17Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. 18Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee. 19All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more." —Ezekiel 28: 12-19

Per many knowledgeable Bible scholars, that scripture refers to **Satan's first rebellion**, when a third of God's children [That's 1/3 of us!] followed him in his campaign to "become like God." Those people who followed Satan in that mutiny wanted to be like God, too:

- > "3And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon [one of several Bible names for Satan], having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. 4And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven..." —Revelation 12:3,4

Here, the "stars of heaven" are *people*—a.k.a. "angels."

At Numbers 24:17, there is this: "I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the

children of Sheth." Some have mistakenly thought that "Star out of Jacob" refers to King David. Objective analysis confirms that it refers to our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Stars guide people. That's why the "seven stars" of chapters two and three of Revelation are the human leaders of the prophetic seven churches of Asia Minor. That observation is confirmed at Revelation 1:20 by this preface: "The mystery of the seven which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels [*i.e.*: *the leaders*] of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches."

Those people without belly buttons who keep visiting us from "their first estate" are from that 1/3 of the people of The First Earth Age who joined with Satan in mutiny. You and I awaited God's timing to be "born of water" into this Second Earth Age. Whether they're motivated by an overwhelming sense of impatience or by specific assignments from Satan, those no-belly-button guys keep breaking in line!

How long did The First Earth Age last? Nobody knows that. It's something else God has chosen to keep to Himself. What we can know is that ALL of God's children were here...but not in flesh-and-blood bodies.

Time for our final review:

- 1 God has chosen NOT to tell us how long The First Earth Age lasted. If I ever get an opportunity to ask Him about that, I'll do it! You? He knew us all then. "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee..." —Jeremiah 1:5
- 2 God's "elect" are people who're predestined for specific assignments to accomplish God's will in this Second Earth Age. That's because, in The First Earth Age, they demonstrated mindsets of dedication and determination to complete their assignments even in the face of strong opposition and great difficulty. God knew He could depend on them to do that in this Second Earth Age, too. Whether they can opt out remains uncertain. But Satan (a.k.a. "the son of perdition") was a man of destiny, too. He sealed his own eternal doom when he opted out.
- 3 "The faithful" are Christians who're NOT predestined for specific assignments. They're just as eligible for Salvation as the "elect" are, though. To accomplish His will, God may even use their Christ-like desire to do good works. He'll reward them for that during The Third Earth Age, when "Heaven" will again be right here!
- 4 YOU may be among the "elect" if you feel righteously compelled to keep doing something (even in the face of great difficulty and strong opposition) that can be of benefit to God's people. There's danger, though: We must avoid the "ego" snare that led to Satan's fall: "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high [places]." —Paul, at Ephesians 6:12

Here's some great news: It's NOT necessary that your assignment be like Paul's epic assignment. Your role may impact just a few of God's people. "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." —Paul, at Galatians 6:9

- 5 Paul's critical words at Romans 13:11, "...for now [is] our salvation nearer than when we believed" tell us that "Salvation" for each of us will be at some point in our future! At 1 Thessalonians 5:8, he wrote this: "But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, **the hope of salvation.**" At James 2:19, there is this for those who're still convinced that simply BELIEVING in Jesus and the gospel message will get salvation for them: "...the devils also believe and tremble."  
"Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer." —Psalm 19:14
- 6 God would've given those people with no belly buttons a second chance, too...if they had only been patient enough to wait for His time for them to be "born of water." Jude 1:6 confirms that: "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day."
- 7 "Angels" and "Sons of God" are PEOPLE, but in other-dimensional bodies. Those bodies are probably like the one Jesus got at the moment of His magnificent resurrection. We'll exchange these physical bodies for other-dimensional bodies at that amazing twinkling-of-an-eye moment when The Second Earth Age ends and The Third Earth Age begins. That'll be at "the last trump" of 1 Corinthians 15:51,52, "the trump of God" at 1 Thessalonians 4:16 and the trumpet of the seventh angel of Revelation 11:15: "And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become [the kingdoms] of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever."

Because "The Kingdom of God" will, again, be right here on planet Earth, there'll be no need for anyone to "fly away" ...to anywhere!

- 8 The enormously popular "rapture" theories were NEVER spoken of or written about until after April, 1830, in a well-documented Occult environment. They weren't written about until September, 1830, by a young mentally-disturbed preacher in London.

Satan is using those theories to deceive naïve misinformed and uninformed churchgoers, worldwide. 2 Timothy 4:3 confirms that. THOSE people will be his easiest prey when he will (and the primary reason why he will be able to) successfully masquerade as Jesus Christ. 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4 confirms that.

Follow this link to learn all you'll need to know about that topic: [www.DYPK.org/Rapture](http://www.DYPK.org/Rapture).

- 9 God became so angry with Satan and the other 1/3 of the PEOPLE who followed him in mutiny that He destroyed EVERYTHING except the basic planet, itself. He shook it so violently that it still rotates around the sun with a 23.4° axis tilt! That was the end of The First Earth Age. We're told about the beginning of The Second Earth Age from Genesis 1:2 and forward from there.

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—a collaborative effort with several other members of our **Link1™** Bible Research Team

