

# Foreknowledge in 1 Peter

1 Peter 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.

1 Peter 1:20 He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you

'Foreknowledge' in verse 2 is *prognwsin prognosis*, meaning 'to know beforehand'. The word is a late substantive from *proginwskw proginosko* (1:20),

'Foreordained' in verse 20 is *proegnwsmenou proginosko*. Roberston's Word Pictures: "Perfect passive participle (in genitive singular agreeing with *Cristou*) of *proginwskw*, old verb, to know beforehand (Ro 8:29; 2Pe 3:17). See *prognwsin qeou* in verse 2.'

Thus the foreknowledge in verse 2 is the substantive form of the foreordination in verse 20. Believers are elect in the same way that Christ is elect. Election is not based upon a foreknowledge of what a person will do in the future, merely prescience, but is a divine choice for a reason. It is not based upon the human will. In fact it is based upon knowledge that contains love, as Christ was loved and chosen by the Father for a specific purpose. In this sense 'knowledge' has the extended meaning of 'knowing in love', in the way that men are said to have known their wives (Gen 4:1; 1 Sam 1:19).

Election is sovereign divine choice based upon love, as Paul explains in Eph 1:4, 'He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love'.

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