

Act 27: 20-26, 30-32

SUBJECT: Predestination

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I. The Divine Decrees. Predestination.  
God speaking His language in foreknowledge  
of election  
predestination

1. The word spoken  
Acts 23:11  
27:34

and this terrible trial at sea  
27:24a Paul to them before comes  
27:33, 34, 34 (repeated 3 times) all 276 to  
absolutely determined  
27:27 the ship to be lost  
27:36 cast on an island

2. Nothing can prevent the fulfillment, that promise  
of the divine decree

(1) STORM  
course, the vessel deflected  
27:27a  
APPARENT hindrance to the decree no real effect  
27:20b

(2) Death non-revel  
death revealed in part, it prey  
storms 27:26  
sailors 27:31  
actions 27:43

3. Paul confident, serene, assured.  
27:25  
27:34, 35 as if deliverance already  
accomplished

## II. The Free Efforts of Men

The description of the deliverance in the world of men  
And descent always includes the efforts of men

1. Cutting off the sails as escape  
22:31, 32 needed to beach the vessel

2. The salvation by maximum effort  
22:43 survivors search  
rest of board, flanks, broken pieces

3. Effort as if no device at all  
22:34 soundly 120°, 80°  
: 29 4 anchors cast (stern not forward)  
: 36 not heavy meal, needed strength  
: 40 day meal, sail, red down  
: 43 all strike

Absolute descent not supercede continuing  
at Capt's log. of Buell 1643 second career

So always in our lives

III The Deeds, Language, & that in Heaven  
The Efforts of men on earth

1. The two co-exist  
(purpose) that  
(world) / man  
(certainty in right) / man  
(conduct) . . .  
God's foreknowledge, election includes  
the ministers must preach (Paul plant  
& must report (apostles sent))  
We must struggle individually  
(if you give  
the witness)

2. Seen in  
" Our personal sections Eph 1:4-5  
God's language 29 13:3  
Our experience (ps. 3:16) act 16:70

(1) Our ultimate entrance into Heaven  
God's decree John 10:27-29  
Our experience John 10:28  
must 10:23  
So act 27:31

3. So at last, according to a decree, all saved  
drunked, & devotes, sleeping  
each surprised to see himself saved  
but each a story & left to the admitted matter

There is joy, around the throne, each his story  
but that Jesus all along.

Acts 27: 22-31

Predestination.

Going to look at God's world. Spiritual world.

Cannot explain it - just look at it.  
(1) <sup>as if</sup> ~~you~~ <sup>you</sup> at <sup>it</sup> <sup>it</sup>. "Plan is no such animal."

- (a) Planetarium - Chicago World's Fair. just looking at it.
- (b) Botany - microscope, leaf: cell, proto-plant, chlorophyll
- (c) Physics - molecules, atoms. Nuclear world.
- (d) Pre-med course - cat, frog, anatomical world.

1. The divine decree.

Acts 27:11

27:24

The divine plan - <sup>planned</sup> to stand before Caesar. To present in Rome.  
- all 276 to be saved.

- Certain, absolute promise, <sup>of</sup> <sup>God</sup>. No restrictions, conditions. Repeated 3 times (27: 22, 24, 31).

- Even details of event distinctly declared. (27: 22 "lose thy" 27: 26 landing "on a certain island.") all perfectly determined.

Nothing can prevent the fulfillment of that promise, the execution of that divine purpose.

- Zigzag course of the vessel, <sup>deflected</sup> <sup>modified</sup> <sup>destroyed</sup> in St. Paul's bay, yet the purpose of the voyage: delivering in Rome.

- Apparent hindrances to that plan no real effort in prohibiting its consummation. Ship tramples, lands, sea, utter wreck. None-the-less, a single, controlling purpose. Save all 276 saved by design, predestination, by the direct <sup>divine</sup> <sup>purpose</sup> of God.

- Death over-ruled.

The storm - death. 27:20

The sailors - (if left) death. 27:31

The soldiers - death 27:42

Death seemed independent of his purpose.

THE SNAKE. END

## The serenity of Paul

His persuasion - as if deliverance already accomplished. 27: 34, 35 take bread just thanks to the  
Have all been lost, God not kept his word.

2. Yet, the execution of the divine decree in no way interfered with the human effort for deliverance. When rescue accomplished, accomplished in most comprehensive way. Swain, men; men; rest on beach, joined the ship.

Every effort made as if no decree at all.

- (1) Sounding line cast twice
- (2) 4 anchors lowered
- (3) At day break, sails set, rudder bands loosed.
- (4) Cook went to eat hearty meal for the first, desperate effort
- (5) Skill of sailors must be exercised. Could not be saved without them. 27: 31. Small boat cut adrift to keep them aboard.

No notion that the divine plan, purpose, superseded the necessity for human effort. The absolute decree did not interfere with the contingency of second course. 27: 31

(2) Bay. Conf. of Faith 1643.

3. The sovereignty of God and the freedom of man.

(1) Prophecy = the death of Christ.

Foretold minutely.

Yet Acts 2:23; 4:24-28

(2) Personal election.

Eph. 1:4, 5

Jn 15:16 "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you."

Yet salvation on condition, conditional: repentance  
faith

Lk. 13:3 "Except ye repent..."

Jn 3:3 "Ye must be born again."

(3) Promises of God.

John 10:27-29

Yet Lk 10:38 "if any man draw back"

Matth 10:22 "he that endureth to the end"

Acts 27:31 "Except thou in the ship... and of gospel truth..."

#### 4. Summary.

A divine decree does not destroy human contingency. Certain to God - contingent in regard to man. God's sovereignty, man's freedom. True harmonious diff. between speech, logic comprehension of finite possibilities. But not incompatible, antagonistic. The two co-exist, each in their integrity. The purpose, the essence the reality of man.

The deity. The who comes with the command. . . . wants. > And you see what the man will do. But this not alter the man's will. He is no less a free agent. The certainty of an event in the sight of God does not destroy its contingency in the part of man.

No ground for complacency in affairs of the soul.

The minister must preach - <sup>and plant</sup> ~~and plant~~ <sup>of the word</sup> ~~of the word~~ <sup>of the word</sup> ~~of the word~~

All must struggle individually - "script alone is thy . . ."

So at last - all saved. Repentant, deformed, shining, script upon the bark, but all alive. God's verdict & promise. Each surprised to see himself alive - each to the natives told his story.

So at last - in glory. ~~around~~ the throne. Each his story to tell. How we became through the mercy of God.

(1) Solving problems. Change the way of thinking. (2) More a feeling. The way of feeling.

8/2/4



The certainty of the Divine purposes in no way  
interferes with the contingency of second causes.

The first Baptist Confession of Faith, 1643:

"God has decreed in himself from all eternity,  
by the most wise and holy counsel of his own  
will, freely and unchangeably, all things  
whatsoever come to pass; yet so as thereby  
neither is God the author of sin, nor hath  
any fellowship therein, nor is violence offered to  
the will of the creature; nor yet is the liberty  
or contingency of second causes taken away,  
but rather established."