

PREDESTINATION AND THE DETERMINATE COUNSEL OF GOD

In the King James Version of the New Testament, there are four English words translated from the Greek word "horizo": "determined/determinate" (Luke 22:22, Acts 2:23, 11:29, 17:26), "ordained" (Acts 10:42, 17:31), "declared" (Rom. 1:4), and "limiteth" (Heb. 4:7); and there are three English words translated from the Greek word "proorizo": "determined before" (Acts 4:28), "ordained" (1 Cor. 2:7), and "predestinate/predestinated" (Rom. 8:29-30 & Eph. 1:5, 11). As Primitive Baptists, we believe the King James Version of the Bible is the preserved word of God in English. The credentials of the approximately 54 scholars involved and the procedures utilized in the translation process are incredible. When the work was complete, every single verse of the Bible had been carefully examined and decided upon a total of 14 times!* Nevertheless, it is not uncommon to hear someone attempt to change the meaning of a text by saying, "A better English translation for this Greek word would have been.....". To make such a statement is to display one's ignorance and/or arrogance.

The meaning of some words in the King James Version has changed over the past 400 years. For example, in 1611 (the year the King James translation was completed) the word "conversation" referred to someone's "manner of living" as illustrated in *Galatians 1:13*, "For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God and wasted it." (see also [http://www.chick.com/ask/articles/translate.asp](#)). Also means "conversation". Today, we generally use this word to describe a verbal exchange between two or more people. For example, "We had a conversation on the telephone." Therefore, when studying the Bible it is important to keep this in mind and try to understand the meaning of the English word in 1611. The old "Oxford English Dictionary On Historical Principles" provides an overview of word m For example, it may list a particular meaning of a word in the later part of the 16th century. In such case we can generally assume this was the intended meaning the King James translators had in mind in 1611.

Interestingly, in the four verses which use the Greek word "pro-orizo" in relation to God's covenant of salvation, the King James translators chose the word "predestinate" as the English equivalent (Rom. 8:29-30 and Eph. 1:5, 11). These verses speak of predestination in relation to being conformed to the image Christ; called, justified, and glorified; being adopted as children; and obtaining an inheritance. When translating the same word in matters decreed to transpire here in time, they chose the expressions "determined before" (Acts 4:28) and "ordained" (1 Cor. 2:7).

The greek word "orizo" is translated, "determine", "determinate", "ordained", "determined", "declared", and "limiteth" (Luke 22:22; Acts 2:23; 10:42; 11:29; 17:26, 31; Rom 1:4; and Heb 4:7). These verses also speak of matters unrelated to God's everlasting covenant to save His people from their sins.

The King James translators have given us the pure word of God in English.

Predestination is only concerned with the eternal salvation of God's elect people, not all the decrees of God.

**For more detailed information on the translation process, go to www.chick.com/ask/articles/translate.asp*