

The Gospel Herald

“As the truth is in Jesus” (Ephesians 4:21)

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by
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Predestinated

“Having PREDESTINATED us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of HIS will.”

Eph.1:4, 11; Rom. 8:29, 30

Beloved of God, because of predestination, we shall reach heaven and our home with God. Our souls are knit together. But we are also appointed (predestinated) once to die (Heb.9:27). But we are also appointed (predestinated) to rise again and not only so but to ascend to heaven. “But I would not have you be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words” (I Thes.4:13-18).

Time hastens, the ages roll on. Everything moves as God has foreordained. Soon the sun of our life shall set and that forever. We shall press a dying pillow. A faintness shall seize our heart, a dimness obscures our vision. Tremblingly we shall draw our latest breath. Still shall we lie. Gone shall we be. A cloud of sorrow shall envelope the hearts of those who love us. Tears shall blind their weeping eyes. Sadly, the one who loved us best will plant a kiss on our cold, cold brow. Tenderly they fold our still, still hands across our stiller breast. Gently and with solemn tread they bear our lifeless dust to its final resting place. Down in the cold and silent tomb we shall lie. Till the heavens be no more we shall not awake nor rise from our sleep. That is inevitable. That is certain. That is predestinated.

But hush, my soul! Eternity beckons. Another hour is also predestined. A mighty angel shall come down from heaven. He shall plant one foot upon the land, the other upon

the sea. Lifting up His hand to heaven, He shall cry with a loud voice and swear by Him that liveth forever and ever that time shall be no more. "But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when He shall begin to sound, the mystery of God shall be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets" (Rev. 10:7).

"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed" (I Corin.15:51-52).

We shall rise. The trumpet shall sound. It is foreordained. It is predestined. It is fixed. It is certain. It is sure. It is final. We shall meet. Our souls are knit together. We are bound in a bundle of life with the Lord our God. All shall meet with souls God has knit together: fathers, mothers, children, wives, husbands, sons, daughters, friends, brethren; all shall meet. David and Jonathan, David-beloved – Jonathan- God is given - Beloved God is given!

And meeting we shall part no more. It is predestined. It is certain. It is sure. It is final.

"Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things. And blessed be His glorious name for ever; and let the whole earth be filled with His glory; Amen, and Amen. The prayers of David, the son of Jesse are ended" (Psa. 72: 18-20).

Amen and Amen. Foreordained and Predestined and this is our final word.

Note: This was transcribed from the book "The Tie that Binds" by Cleve Brantley published by Welch Tract Publications of Salisbury, MD (pages 74-76).

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