

Count to Pentecost and Predestination

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Almighty God, the Father, did not begin His creation in a hap hazard manner. Instead, He had a plan that would consider every possible deviation from the goal He was working toward. Therefore if anyone took a wrong turn, with the potential of undermining His "end goal" while harming themselves and others, there was a remedy already built-in. The ultimate remedy involved the intervention of His son who agreed to do whatever was necessary to correct any serious and persistent problem, even if it meant giving up his life.

*Therefore my Father loves me, because I (Christ) **lay down my life** that I may take it again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but **I lay it down of myself**... (Jn. 10:17-18a; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

*But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, **that he**, by the grace of God (Almighty), **might taste death for everyone** (Heb. 2:9; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

Again, God the Father had this contingency built into His plan and it was put into action when the first individual decided to interfere, interrupt, or thwart what is intended to be a very positive outcome for everyone.

*And all who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of **the Lamb** (Christ, who agreed to be) **slain from the foundation of the world** (Rev. 13:8; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

*For we who have believed do enter that rest, as He has said: "So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest,' " although **the works were finished from the foundation of the world** (Heb. 4:3; emphasis added).*

It is important to mention that the word "foundation" is translated from the Greek word *katabole*, which includes "throwing down" (i.e.. of an established system, or order). This action of throwing down, or attempting to thwart God's plan for His creation occurred when Satan rebelled against his heavenly Father, and refused to admit his sin (cf. Isa. 14:12-15; Eze. 28:12-19). As soon as this occurred, the countdown to the next phase of God's plan began. As mentioned previously, this included the work of Jesus Christ who agreed to do whatever was necessary in order to reconcile every sinner in their relationship with God the Father. Christ made this decision at the time of Satan's rebellion, or shortly after. Either way, it confirms that the spirit being, now known as Jesus Christ, came into existence a very long time ago. This truth is confirmed by the following scriptures.

*And now, O Father, **glorify me** together alongside Yourself, **with the glory which I had with You before the world was** (created) (Jn. 17:5; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

*Father, I desire that they also whom You gave me may be with me where I am, that they may behold my glory which You have given me; for **You loved me before the foundation of the world** (Jn. 17:24; emphasis added).*

And he (Christ) said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven (Lk. 10:18; Ed. note in parenthesis).

So according to John 17:5, 24, the spirit being we now know as Jesus Christ, existed "before the

world was". Not only did he live a very long time ago, but he also knew about his heavenly Father's plan and was excited to actively participate in it. This is confirmed in Proverbs 8:22-36 where Jesus Christ is associated with the "wisdom of God Almighty". Further witnesses of this truth are recorded in the writings of the Second Covenant.

*But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, **Christ** the power of God (Almighty) and **the wisdom of God** (Almighty) (1Cor. 1:24; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

*...of **Christ**, ³**in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge** (Col. 2:2b-3; emphasis added).*

Also, because Christ was taught by his Father, he knew what the two loaves of bread associated with the Day of Pentecost represented (Lev. 23:15-21). And, that the fulfillment of what these two loaves represented could only come to fruition providing Christ was willing to lay down his life to cover the sins of everyone who repents.

Because Jesus Christ embodies the wisdom of God, he was able to teach another important lesson about the loaves of Pentecost to the apostle Paul (Gal. 1:15-17). Specifically, these loaves confirm that Almighty God's plan includes those who are called out of this present evil age prior to others who will be called later.

*For many are called, but **few are chosen** (during the present evil age; cf. Gal. 1:4) (Mt. 22:14; emphasis added).*

Not only that, but Almighty God foreknew who He would call and when He would call them.

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that he (Christ) might be the firstborn among many

brethren. ³⁰*Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called (cf. Jn. 6:44; 65); whom He called, these He also justified (by leading them to repentance; cf. Rom. 2:4), these He also glorified (through receipt of His Holy Spirit; cf. Rom. 8:11) (Rom. 8:29-30; cf. 1Jn. 3:1-2; 1Pet. 2:9-10; Ed. notes in parentheses).*

*God has not cast away **His people whom He foreknew**... (Rom. 11:2a; emphasis added).*

***But each one in his own order:** Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at his coming (1Cor. 15:23; emphasis added).*

Those who belong to Christ are the ones pictured by the two loaves of bread at Pentecost. God the Father knew in advance that He would call these people, lead them to repentance, forgive their sins after they willingly repented, and then place them under the tutelage of His Son, Jesus Christ.

*But you, do not be called 'Rabbi'; for **one is your Teacher**, and you are all brethren (Mt. 23:8; emphasis added).*

*..... "**This is My beloved Son**, in whom I am well pleased. **Hear him!**" (Mt. 17:5; cf. Ex. 23:20-21; emphasis added).*

*And do not be called teachers (in a religious sense); for **one is your Teacher, the Christ** (Mt. 23:10; cf. Jer. 32:33; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

***You call me Teacher and Lord**, and you say well, **for so I am** (Jn. 13:13; emphasis added).*

So everyone, who is figuratively represented by the two loaves that are "waved" during the Pentecost service, is given to Jesus Christ for further instruction in righteous behavior. These same people were sanctified, or set apart, from

the beginning of creation. This is further confirmed in other scriptures, including the following:

Then the word of the Lord came to me (Jeremiah), saying: ⁵"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; and I ordained (appointed) you a prophet to the nations (Jer. 1:4-5; cf. Gal. 1:15-16; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

Then the King (Christ) will say to those on His right hand, "Come, you blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Mt. 25:34; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

Almighty God also foreknew the names of those who are represented by the two loaves at Pentecost.

*Then Moses said to the Lord, See, You say to me, 'Bring up this people.' But You have not let me know whom You will send with me. Yet **You have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found grace in My sight.'** (Ex. 33:12; emphasis added).*

Jesus Christ was also named prior to his birth as a human being. His name was then passed on to the first nation that he was responsible for leading out of sin. This sin was figuratively represented by the nation of Egypt because it was infamous for worshiping multiple pagan deities.

Listen, O coastlands, to Me, and take heed you peoples from afar! The Lord (Almighty) has called me (Christ) from the womb; from the matrix of my mother (Mariam; Mary) He has made mention of my name. ²And He has made my mouth like a sharp sword (cf. Rev. 1:16;

2:12) ... (Isa. 49:1-2a; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

*And He (Almighty God) said to me (Christ), **'You are My servant, O Israel** (Prince of God), in whom I will be glorified (Isa. 49:3; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

Jesus Christ's sacrifice made it possible for many in the physical nation of Israel, as well as those outside of this nation, to be reconciled to Almighty God. Eventually all repentant sinners will come under the leadership of Almighty God's true and faithful servant, Jesus Christ, regardless of social status, ethnic background, or gender (cf. Gal. 3:28; Col. 3:11).

*And now the Lord (Almighty) says, Who formed me (Christ) from the womb to be His Servant, **to bring Jacob back to Him** (through Christ's shed blood; cf. Heb. 9:22), so that Israel is gathered to Him... (Isa. 49:5a; Ed. notes in parentheses)*

*Indeed He (Almighty God) says, 'It is too small a thing that you (Christ) should be My Servant to **raise up the tribes of Jacob** (ultimately; resurrect to everlasting life; cf. Jn. 11:25), and to restore the preserved ones of Israel (in their relationship with Almighty God); **I will also give you** (Christ) **as a light to the Gentiles**, that you should be My salvation to the ends of the earth' (Isa. 49:6; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

*He (Simeon) took him (Christ as an infant) in his arms and blessed God (Almighty) and said: ²⁹ "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; ³⁰For my eyes have seen Your salvation (cf. **Jn. 4:42; 2Pet. 2:20; 1Jn. 4:14)** ³¹Which You have prepared (from the "foundation of the world") before the face of all peoples, ³²**A light to bring revelation** (revealing of God's truth) **to the Gentiles**, and the glory of Your*

people Israel (Lk. 2:28-32; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

Therefore, some of Israelite descent as well as some who are non-Israelite are included in what is figuratively represented by the two loaves of Pentecost. In conclusion, people from both ethnic backgrounds were foreknown by Almighty God, and predestined to be led to repentance. Providing they continue to live in newness of life (cf. Rom. 6:4-6), which includes a willingness to obey every word of God (cf. Mt. 4:4), they will inherit everlasting life at Christ's return.

Behold, I tell you a mystery: we shall not all sleep (remain dead), but we shall all be changed – ⁵²in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet (announcing Christ's return; cf. Mt. 24:30-31). For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed (1Cor. 15:51-52; Ed. notes in parentheses).

But he who endures (continues living in accordance with God's will) to the end shall be saved (Mt. 24:13; cf. 10:22; Mk. 13:13; Ed. note in parenthesis).

So the two loaves of bread that are "waved" during the Pentecost service each year represent those who Almighty God foreknew and predestined to be called out of this present evil age prior to Christ's return.

Everyone else will be resurrected 1,000 years after Christ's return and have their opportunity to willingly repent of their sins and be restored to Almighty God, Who is not willing that anyone perish forever (2Pet. 3:9).

The two loaves included in the celebration of Pentecost may carry a dual meaning. They may represent those who are "called" during both the First and Second Covenant periods, and/or one loaf may represent descendants of Jacob (cf. Rev.

7:4-8), while the second may picture the Gentile peoples. Gentiles were called to repentance during both the First and Second Covenant periods. Jesus Christ himself is a descendant of a Gentile woman, Rahab (cf. Mt. 1:5).

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