

While there are these matters I have mentioned which any honest person who reads the Scripture must admit are taught in Scripture, there are many portions of God's will which are a mystery to us.

In Eph. ~~1:5~~^{1:5} we read: "Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of His will" In vs. 11 we read, "In whom also we have obtained an inheritance being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who works all things after the counsel of His own will." Some say, If that means God beforehand decides you are one to be saved, that's unfair! It must be that He predestinated these that He knew would have sense enough to accept Christ. That makes it fair to everyone! But that does not make it fair to everyone, because millions of people have lived who never heard of Jesus Christ. A comparatively small number have had the gospel presented to them over and over and over again. God does not save people because they have sense enough to believe in Jesus Christ. God chooses because He has predestinated them according to His purpose and after the counsel of His ~~own~~^{know of} will. Every one of us who has come to/Christ has been blessed in that God has placed us in a situation where the knowledge of Christ would be brought to us, where we would hear facts about Jesus Christ. He has placed us in a situation where perhaps we would be put in a mood where we would be interested enough to listen. He has ~~perhaps~~ perhaps placed us where there is someone who is zealous and anxious to spread the knowledge of Christ.

We do not understand the counsel of God. We do not know why it is He predestinated certain ones to salvation, but no one of us can say it is any goodness in us that we are saved. It is entirely God's goodness and God's grace! But here is a mystery in God's will.

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