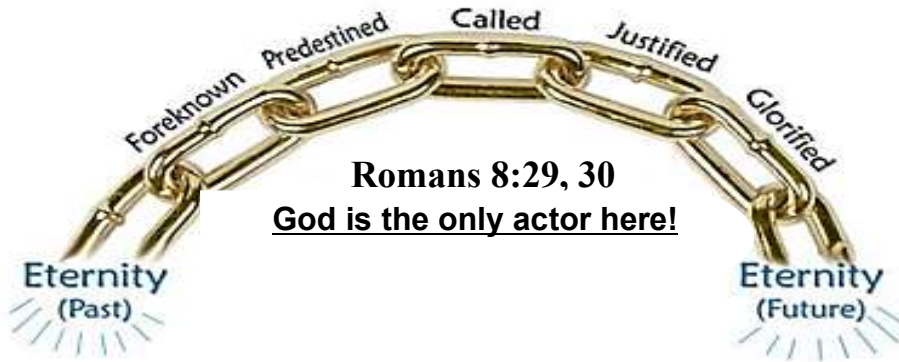


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Romans #31

God's Golden Chain



Those He foreknew . . .

To pre-know = intimate knowledge/choice, not mere foresight: 11:2, I Pt. 1:2,20, Acts 2:23. See *know* in OT--Gen.4:1, 18:19, Jer. 1:5, Amos 3:2. Note God foreknew us—not simply what we would do.

He also predestined . . .

To pre-determine = our destiny God has planned out, see Acts 4:28, Eph. 1:5,11, I Cor. 2:7. God's plan is to conform us into the image of Jesus (Phil. 3:21/I Cor. 15:39, I Jn. 3:2). God's ultimate goal = Jesus is to be the firstborn (Col. 1:18, Heb. 1:6, Rev. 1:5) of many brethren—thus a planet full of people like Jesus!

He also called . . .

To be called = chosen not just invited (in v.28 too); also in II Tim. 1:9, I Thess. 2:12, I Pt. 1:15, 5:10. The adj. is in 1:6,7, Rev. 17:14. Note connection to the *elect* in 8:33, as in I Cor. 1:26,27.

He also justified . . .

To be declared righteous = the focus in chs.. 3-5. Recall the focus on faith there, but here the focus is all on God's initiative.

He also glorified . . .

To share in Christ's glory = our destiny, recall in v.17,18,21. This glory suggests . . . 9:23, I Cor. 15:42,43, Dan. 12:3, Eph. 5:27, I Pt. 1:7. Note sanctification is skipped and glorification is past tense. Why?