

Sermon #11
Ephesians Sermons

Title: **GLORIOUS PREDESTINATION**
Text: Ephesians 1:11
Subject: *Divine Predestination*
Date: Sunday Morning — July 16, 2006
Tape # Z-04a
Readings: *Romans 8:28-39*

Introduction:

The title of my message today is **GLORIOUS PREDESTINATION**. Our text will be Ephesians 1:11.

(Ephesians 1:11) “In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will.”

God almighty, the one true and living God, the God of the Bible is a God of purpose, sovereign, eternal, unalterable purpose. Everything that comes to pass in time is brought to pass by the hand of our God, — “*According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord*” (Eph. 3:11). This eternal purpose of God is what we call, in Bible terms, “predestination.”

“**PREDESTINATION** is the decree of God whereby he hath for his own glory fore-ordained whatever comes to pass.”
Charles Buck

In Ephesians 1:5 the Holy Spirit tells us that all who are made the children of God in time were “*predestinated unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will.*” Here, in verse 11, he tells us that we who believe on the Son of God have obtained an inheritance in Christ, “*being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will.*”

BIBLE DOCTRINE

There is absolutely no question about the fact that the Word of God teaches the doctrine of predestination. It is taught throughout the Scriptures and clearly stated in numerous passages of Inspiration (Matt. 25:34; Rom. 8:29, 30; Eph. 1:3,6,11; 2 Tim. 1:9-10; 2 Thess. 2:13; 1 Pet. 1:1-2; John 6:37; 17:2-24; Rev. 13:8; 17:8; Dan. 4:35; 1 Thess. 5:19; Matt. 11:26; Ex. 4:21; Pro. 16:4; Acts 2:23; 4:28; 13:48; Rom. 9:11; Eph. 3:11).

The basis of our faith is the Word of God, and the Word of God alone. We do not believe the doctrine of predestination because it is a logical and reasonable part of a theological system,

though it is both logical and reasonable. We do not believe this doctrine, or any other doctrine for that matter, simply because it has been upheld and maintained by true believers throughout the ages of Christianity, though it cannot be denied that the Church of God has always taught God's sovereign predestination. Yet, neither logic nor history is the basis of our faith. The basis of our faith is the Word of God alone. We believe this doctrine, rejoice in it, and preach it from the housetops because it is plainly taught in Holy Scripture.

Here are five verses from the Inspired Volume, in which **Divine Predestination** is set forth with unmistakable clarity.

(Romans 8:28-30) "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose. (29) For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. (30) Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified."

(Ephesians 1:5) "Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will."

(Ephesians 1:11) "In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will."

There is no question about the fact that predestination is a Bible doctrine. It is taught throughout the Bible. The only question that needs to be answered is this: **What does the Bible teach about predestination?**

This is one doctrine that is often deliberately misrepresented by those who oppose it and ignorantly misrepresented by those who try to defend it. I once heard **Bro. Henry Mahan** say, "It is hard to say whether this doctrine has suffered more in the camp of its enemies or in the camp of its friends." That is the reason I want us to carefully search the Scriptures today. I want you to see for yourselves what the Bible does and what the Bible does not teach about Divine Predestination.

MISREPRESENTATIONS

Let me begin by showing you that there are four things commonly taught by men about predestination which the Word of God does not teach.

1. The Bible does not teach that impersonal, stoic philosophy that says, "**Whatever will be will be.**"

That is nothing but philosophical fatalism. It attempts to remove from man all responsibility for his actions and for his condition in life. We do not for a moment believe that a man is the master

of his own destiny. But we do believe that every man is responsible for his own soul and that every man's destiny is his own responsibility.

2. The Word of God does not teach that religious fatalism which says, "**The elect will be saved, no matter what.**"

We do believe the Bible doctrine of election. It is impossible to believe this Book and not believe in election. However, the Word of God never suggests or even allows the possibility that "*The elect will be saved no matter what.*" The Scriptures plainly declare that **no one will ever be saved who does not...**

- Hear the Gospel (Rom. 10:17).
- Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ (Mk. 16:15-16).
- Acknowledge and Confess His Sin (1 John 1:9).
- Repent of His Sins (Luke 13:5).
- Persevere in the Faith (Matt. 10:22).

God has predestinated the use of specific means for the accomplishment of his purposes; and the use of those means is as necessary and as certain as the end itself.

3. The Word of God nowhere teaches or implies that **God has arbitrarily predestinated some to go to heaven and some to go to hell.**

The all-wise God never does anything arbitrarily. He has a wise and good purpose for everything he does and everything he purposed from eternity.

Without question, the everlasting condemnation of the reprobate was as much a part of God's decree as the salvation of the elect.

(Proverbs 16:4) "The LORD hath made all *things* for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil."

(1 Peter 2:8) "And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, *even to them* which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed."

(Jude 1:4) "For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ."

The Bible speaks as plainly about "*the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction,*" as it does about "*the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory*" (Rom. 9:21-24). However, we must never fail to recognize that God's predestination, while securing the salvation of the elect by God's hand alone, leaves the responsibility for every sinner's damnation upon his own shoulders. **The elect, the vessels of mercy are prepared for glory by God's free grace in Christ; whereas the reprobate, the vessels of wrath are fitted to destruction by their own sin willful unbelief.**

- Salvation is always set before us in the Bible as being God’s work, and God’s work alone.
- Damnation is always set before us in the Bible as being man’s fault and man’s work alone.

4. **Divine predestination is not based upon God’s foreknowledge.**

Predestination is not God’s foreknowledge of what would come to pass, but his purpose and determination of what must come to pass. It is not the result of what God knew man would do. Rather, predestination is what he determined he would do. The fact is, nothing could be absolutely foreknown that was not absolutely predetermined. **That which is foreknown must have been foreordained.** God knew the end of all things from the beginning because he had predestinated the end from the beginning.

(Isaiah 14:24) “The LORD of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, *so* shall it stand:”

(Isaiah 14:26-27) “This *is* the purpose that is purposed upon the whole earth: and this *is* the hand that is stretched out upon all the nations. (27) For the LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul *it*? and his hand *is* stretched out, and who shall turn it back?”

(Isaiah 46:9-11) “Remember the former things of old: for I *am* God, and *there is* none else; *I am* God, and *there is* none like me, (10) Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times *the things* that are not *yet* done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: (11) Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken *it*, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed *it*, I will also do it.”

Those are some of the many erroneous things taught about predestination. The Bible does not teach...

- “Whatever will be will be.”
- “The elect will be saved, no matter what.”
- “God arbitrarily predestinated some to go to heaven and some to go to hell.”
- “Predestination is based upon God’s foreknowledge of all things.

THE SCRIPTURES DO TEACH

Having said that, let me show you what the Scriptures do teach about this glorious doctrine of predestination. Essentially the doctrine of **Divine Predestination** is this: — Before the world began, God sovereignly predestinated all his elect to be conformed to the image of his dear Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, which he accomplishes in time by his sovereign, irresistible, immutable grace.

1. **Eternal predestination is God's sovereign work.** Carefully observe the language of Scripture. "*He also did predestinate.*" "**He**" is the original cause of all things. "*He*" is the source of salvation. Everything springs from him. It is written, "*All things are of God*" (2 Cor. 5:18). — "*For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever*" (Rom. 11:36).
2. **Specifically, predestination is God's eternal purpose of grace toward his elect.** It is God's determination to save his elect. It is his determination of the everlasting destiny of chosen sinners before the world began. I know that God's sovereign purpose and absolute decree included all things, all people, and all events, in heaven, earth, and hell. But the object of predestination is the salvation of the elect.
 - Divine predestination is absolutely free, sovereign, and unconditional.
 - This work of God was finished before the world began.
 - Predestination was an immutable, unalterable work of God's free grace in Christ.
 - God's predestination is his gracious purpose to save specific sinners, his purpose of grace founded upon and arising from his everlasting love.

(Jeremiah 31:3) "The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, *saying*, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

(Romans 8:29-30) "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. (30) Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified."

(Ephesians 1:3-5) "Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ: (4) According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: (5) Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,"

(2 Timothy 1:9-10) "Who hath saved us, and called *us* with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, (10) But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:"

3. **Salvation is accomplished by the irresistible power of God's grace, according to the sovereign purpose of God in his eternal decree, through the merits of Christ's blood and righteousness as the sinners' Substitute.**

It is not my will that saves me, but God's will. It is not my will that brings me to Christ, but God's will.

(John 1:12-13) “As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name: (13) Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”

(Romans 9:16) “So then *it is* not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that showeth mercy.”

Salvation is accomplished by God’s purpose. No one ever gets saved by chance, or accident. Salvation is God’s work! It is God’s deliberate work. And it is a work which the Lord God almighty purposed to accomplish from eternity.

The means, or method, by which he would accomplish this glorious work was devised and resolved upon from eternity, in the everlasting covenant of grace and counsel of peace.

“Hail sovereign love that first began
The scheme to rescue fallen man;
Hail matchless, free, eternal grace,
That gave my soul a hiding place!”

“O the love that drew salvation’s plan,
O the grace that brought it down to man,
O the mighty gulf that God did span,
At Calvary!”

This is God’s plan. — In eternal mercy, he determined to save a people for the glory of his own great name by the substitutionary sacrifice of his dear Son.

(Job 33:24) “Then he is gracious unto him, and saith, Deliver him from going down to the pit: I have found a ransom.”

(Psalms 89:19) “Then thou spakest in vision to thy holy one, and saidst, I have laid help upon *one that is* mighty; I have exalted *one* chosen out of the people.”

(Romans 3:24-26) “Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: (25) Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; (26) To declare, *I say*, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.”

(Romans 5:8) “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

(2 Corinthians 5:21) “For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”

The death of Christ at Calvary was no accident, or after thought with God. Our Lord Jesus Christ went to the cross to accomplish our salvation by his death as our Substitute, according to his Father’s own determinate counsel.

(Luke 22:22) “And truly the Son of man goeth, as it was determined: but woe unto that man by whom he is betrayed!”

(Acts 2:23) “Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain.”

(Acts 4:28) “For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.”

It was God almighty who determined the time, place, and circumstances of Christ’s birth. It was God alone who determined the time and instrument of his Son’s betrayal. It was God the Father who determined the time, place, and circumstances of his Son’s execution at the hands of wicked men. And it was God who determined what the results of his Son’s sacrificial death upon the cross would be. The Father resolved from eternity to save chosen sinners by the sin-atonement death of his own darling Son.

(Isaiah 53:10-11) “Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put *him* to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see *his* seed, he shall prolong *his* days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. (11) He shall see of the travail of his soul, *and* shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.”

4. All of this the Lord God resolved upon and predestinated for his own glory in the salvation of his elect.

He chose to save sinners by the sacrifice of Christ, through the power of his grace, without any aid or assistance from them, for the glory of his own great name.

(Psalms 106:8) “Nevertheless he saved them for his name’s sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known.”

FOR THE ELECT

Whatever predestination affords, brings to pass, and accomplishes is for God’s elect. Read your Bible again. **Predestination concerns God’s chosen. It secures their salvation, their preservation and their glory.** Predestination is much, much more than an abstract theory of theological speculation. Predestination is one of the most practical, blessed, and glorious doctrines revealed in Holy Scripture.

Predestination does not keep anyone out of heaven. People often look upon predestination as a frightful monster which stands at the gate of heaven and arbitrarily shuts multitudes out, saying, “No, you cannot come in, you cannot be saved, no matter how much you want to be, because you were not chosen and predestinated to salvation.” Nothing could be further from the truth!

- **Any sinner who is lost at last and goes to hell will do so as the result of deliberate action on his part.**

If you go to hell, it will be your own fault. If you refuse to walk in the light God has given you, that is your fault. And when you are cast into hell, you will acknowledge the justice of God in casting you into hell.

- **Reprobation is always presented to us in the Word of God as a judicial act.**

Judgment is an act of justice. It is something God does in justice in response to man’s sin. God sends blindness because men and women choose not to see. He sends hardness of heart to those who harden their hearts against him. He sends men to hell because they will not bow to his Son. Men and women can argue with that fact until they experience it in hell; but that is what God declares. — If you go to hell, it will be no one’s fault but your own!

(Matthew 23:37-38) “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under *her* wings, and ye would not! (38) Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.”

(2 Thessalonians 2:10-11) “And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. (11) And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie.”

(Proverbs 1:20-33) “Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets: (21) She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, *saying*, (22) How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge? (23) Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you. (24) Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; (25) But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: (26) I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; (27) When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. (28) Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: (29) For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD: (30) They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof. (31) Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. (32) For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them. (33) But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.”

Do you understand what I am telling you? If you go to hell, it will be your own fault alone. You will have no one to blame but yourself. But if anyone is saved, it will be God's work alone, the result of deliberate effort on God's part. We will have no one to thank and praise for it but God. And God's salvation began in eternal predestination. Without predestination we would all be damned forever. Predestination is the guarantee of salvation for God's elect!

God almighty predestinated all things for the everlasting salvation of his elect and the glory of his name. In other words, all that comes to pass in time was purposed by God in eternity, purposed for our souls' everlasting good and God's everlasting praise!

(Romans 8:28-30) "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose. (29) For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. (30) Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified."

That is Paul's doctrine in this glorious first chapter of Ephesians.

(Ephesians 1:3-12) "Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ: (4) According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: (5) Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, (6) To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. (7) In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; (8) Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; (9) Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: (10) That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even* in him: (11) In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: (12) That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ."

THE OBJECT

The object of our God in predestination is that we should be conformed to the image of his own dear Son. The one thing God Almighty is determined to accomplish in us by his purpose, his providence, his power and his grace is the exact likeness of his elect to the Lord Jesus Christ. Do you see that in Romans 8:29? God predestinated us to be conformed to the image of his Son!

(Romans 8:28-29) "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose. (29) For whom he did

foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.”

Through the sin and fall of our father Adam, we all became sinners. We lost God’s image in which we were created, and forfeited life, communion, fellowship, and acceptance with him forever.

(Romans 5:12) “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:”

But God’s purpose was not overthrown when Adam sinned. It was executed exactly according to his sovereign will and infinite wisdom.

(1 Corinthians 15:21-22) “For since by man *came* death, by man *came* also the resurrection of the dead. (22) For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.”

God Almighty was determined from the beginning to glorify himself in his creation, by rescuing a multitude which no man can number from Adam’s fall and restoring them to his image, perfectly and forever, through another representative man, the God-man, Christ Jesus. God looked upon his Son from eternity with such joy and delight that he said, I will have an innumerable multitude of sons and daughters just like him. And when predestination has done its work, every chosen sinner will be exactly conformed to the image of God’s dear Son, “*holy and without blame*” before God himself!

- We are conformed to Christ **in his nature**. — He is begotten of God and so are we.
- We are conformed to Christ **in his relationship**. — He is the Son of God; and we are the sons and daughters of the Almighty.

(1 John 3:1) “Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.”

- We must be conformed to Christ **in his experience**. — Like Christ, we must learn obedience through the things we suffer. — Like him, we must endure abuse from men. — Like our Master, we must suffer the attacks of Satan. — Like Christ, we must struggle against temptation and sin.
- We must be conformed to Christ **in his character**. — Like him, we must be consecrated to God. — Like him, we must live by God’s Word. — Like him, we must seek our Father’s will. — Like him, we must be loving, kind, and tender toward one another.
- We must at last be conformed to the image of Christ **in his glory**. — This is salvation, perfect, complete, finished salvation, to be with Christ and be like Christ forever!

Listen to me now. — **This salvation, from start to finish, is accomplished by God, according to his own sovereign purpose of grace in predestination.** — God predestinated from eternity **who** will be saved. — God predestinated from eternity **the means** by which he would save them. — God predestinated from eternity **the time** of their salvation. — God predestinated from eternity **all the events and circumstances necessary for and leading to** their salvation.

Illustrations: *Gomer — Onesimus — The Jailer*

God predestinated from eternity **the place** where he would save his chosen. — God predestinated from eternity **our place in glory.** — God predestinated from eternity **everything required to bring us safely home.**

FOR CHRIST'S SAKE

The ultimate end of god in predestination, as in all other things, is the exaltation and glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has determined to glorify himself in glorifying his glorious Son. He has predestinated us unto the adoption of sons, that Jesus Christ his eternal, only-begotten Son, might be the firstborn among many brethren. And he has caused us to obtain the full inheritance of grace and glory in Christ *“that we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.”*

(Romans 11:33-36) “O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable *are* his judgments, and his ways past finding out! (34) For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? (35) Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? (36) For of him, and through him, and to him, *are* all things: to whom *be* glory for ever. Amen.”

(Colossians 1:16-18) “For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: (17) And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. (18) And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all *things* he might have the preeminence.”

Predestination gives Christ the pre-eminence. — Christ is the center of God’s decrees. — He is the Head of a new, elect race. — He is the center and glory of heaven.

Predestination gives Christ pleasure. — His delights were with the sons of men before time began. Now he has a race of men in whom and with whom he delights! He loves them; and they all love him. This was the joy set before him, for which he endured the cross, despising the shame. This is the reward of his labor.

Predestination gives Christ praise. — God has arranged things so that all the population of heaven will owe everything to Christ, so that everyone in glory land will chant Immanuel’s praise and Immanuel’s praise alone forever!

APPLICATION

This is the glorious doctrine of predestination in which we rejoice. It is a most profitable doctrine.

- It destroys every basis of human pride.
- It exalts the glory of Christ and the grace of God.
- It gives us a purpose in evangelism.
- It gives us a sure hope before God (2 Sam. 23:5).
- It puts us at peace with God's providence.
- It opens the doors of heaven to sinners and guarantees that some shall enter therein.
- It shuts us up to God!
- It brings everlasting praise to the Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior, causing ransomed sinners to glory in him forever!

(Jeremiah 9:23-24) "Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise *man* glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty *man* glory in his might, let not the rich *man* glory in his riches: (24) But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I *am* the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these *things* I delight, saith the LORD."

(Revelation 5:7-14) "And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. (8) And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four *and* twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. (9) And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; (10) And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth. (11) And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; (12) Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. (13) And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, *be* unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. (14) And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four *and* twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever."

Amen.