Loved From Eternity Past

In the latter part of Romans 8 Paul is writing to help us face the hardships that come our way without quitting on Jesus. He has told us, "All things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28). But how can he say that? How can He be so sure? What does he base that statement on? That's what he tells us in Romans 8:29 – 30.

- Who is Paul referring to when he says "These He also called"?

- In this context, what does it mean to be called by God?

- Explain the meaning of the word "predestined"

- Explain the meaning of the word foreknew as it is used in verse 27

- Why, do you think, Paul uses this word instead of just saying, those whom God chose?

- If God chooses who will be saved, why do we bother preaching the gospel?

- What would you say to someone who argues, If God chooses who will be saved then I cannot be held responsible for how I respond to the gospel?

- How does knowing about predestination confirm Paul's statement in verse 28?

- How is knowing about predestination a help for us to persevere and stay faithful to Jesus through the dark days that come our way?