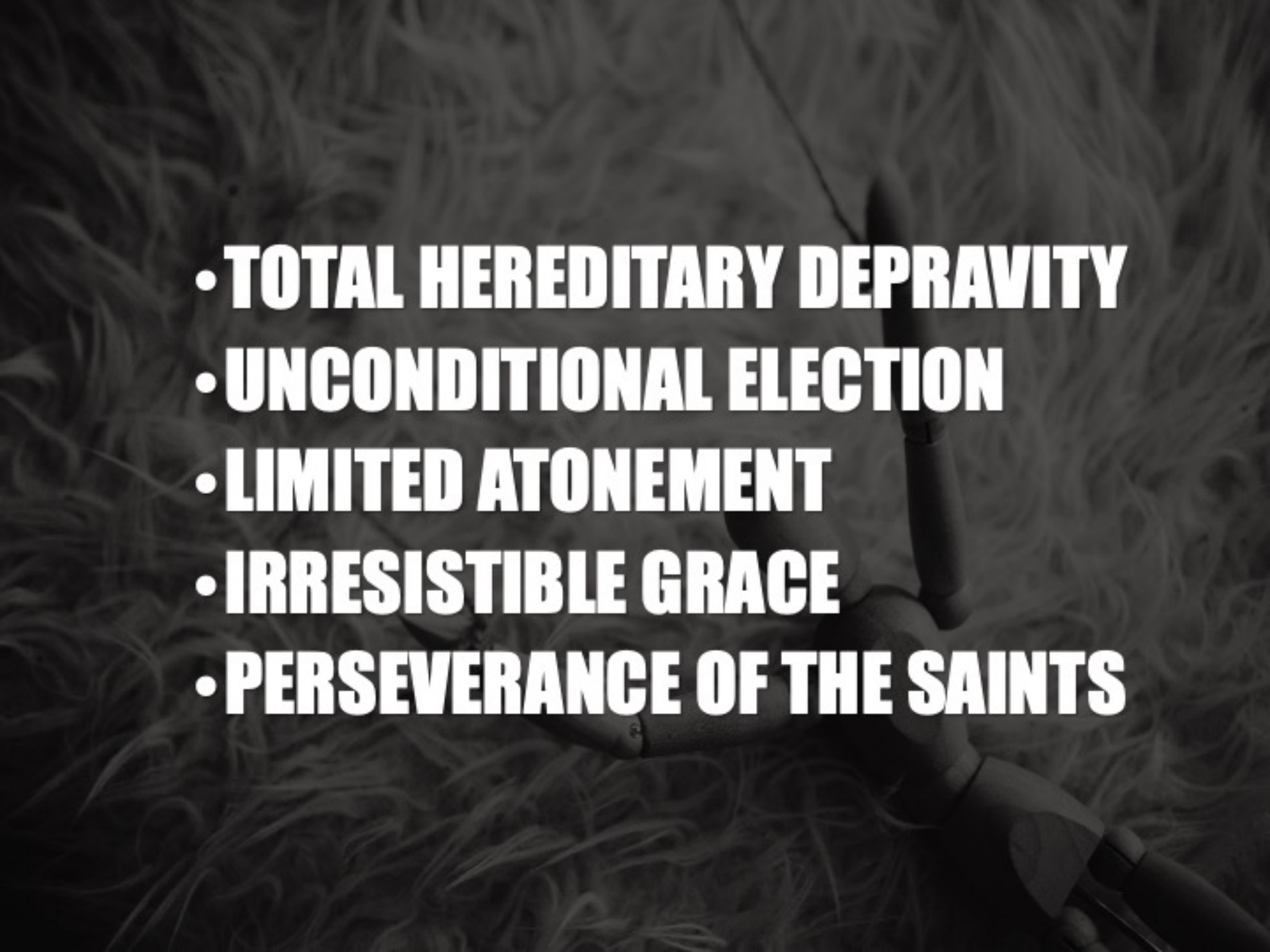


PREDESTINATION

WHAT IS GOD'S PLAN FOR YOU?



- 
- **TOTAL HEREDITARY DEPRAVITY**
 - **UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION**
 - **LIMITED ATONEMENT**
 - **IRRESISTIBLE GRACE**
 - **PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS**

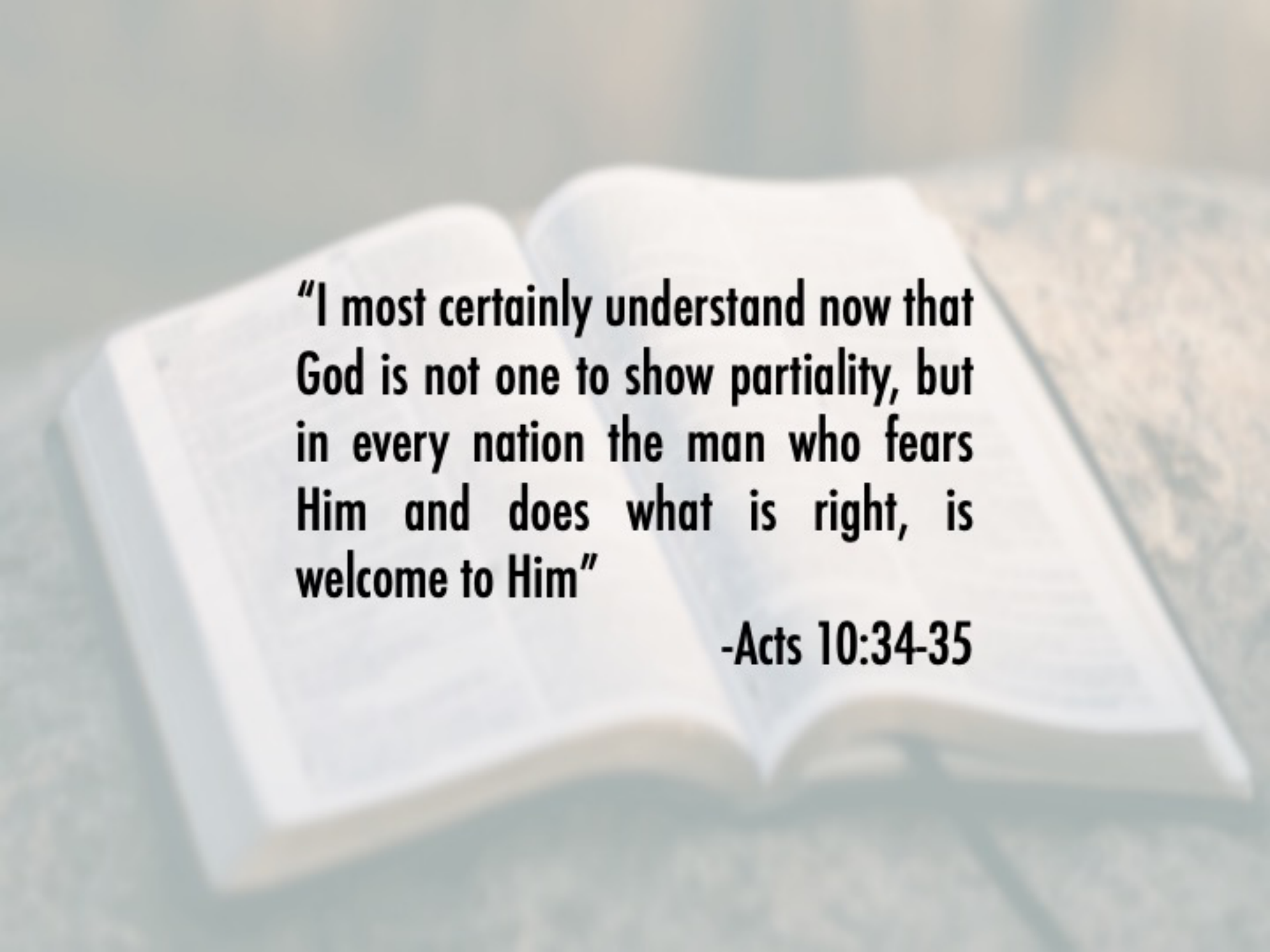
PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH



(USA)

“God from all eternity did by the most wise and holy counsel of his own will freely and unchangeably ordain whatsoever comes to pass... By the decree of God, for the manifestation of his glory, some men and angels are predestined unto life, and others foreordained to everlasting death. These angels and men, thus predestined and foreordained, are particularly and unchangeably designed; and their number is so certain and definite that it cannot be either increased or diminished” (The Confession Of Faith Of The Presbyterian Church, USA, Chapter 111, “Of God’s Eternal Decree”).

An open book is shown from a top-down perspective, lying flat. The pages are white and appear to have some faint text, but it is mostly obscured by the large, bold text overlaid on the image. The book is set against a light, textured background that looks like a carpet or a similar surface. The lighting is soft, creating a gentle shadow under the book.

**"I most certainly understand now that
God is not one to show partiality, but
in every nation the man who fears
Him and does what is right, is
welcome to Him"**

-Acts 10:34-35

- Ephesians 1:3-5 – Not personal identification, but character and quality are predestined. Free will is built in to the context (vv. 12-13). What is predetermined is salvation through the work of Christ (vv. 9-10, 13-14).

PREDESTINATION IN THE BIBLE

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- Romans 8:29-30 – We are not individually, selectively predestined, but our conformity to Christ is.
- Also, foreknowing is not the same as foreordaining. God may foreknow something without making it happen. Obedience is still not canceled out (1 Peter 1:2).

PREDESTINATION IN THE BIBLE

**FOREKNOWLEDGE MEANS GOD CAN
KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN**

(WITHOUT NECESSARILY BEING THE CAUSE OF IT)

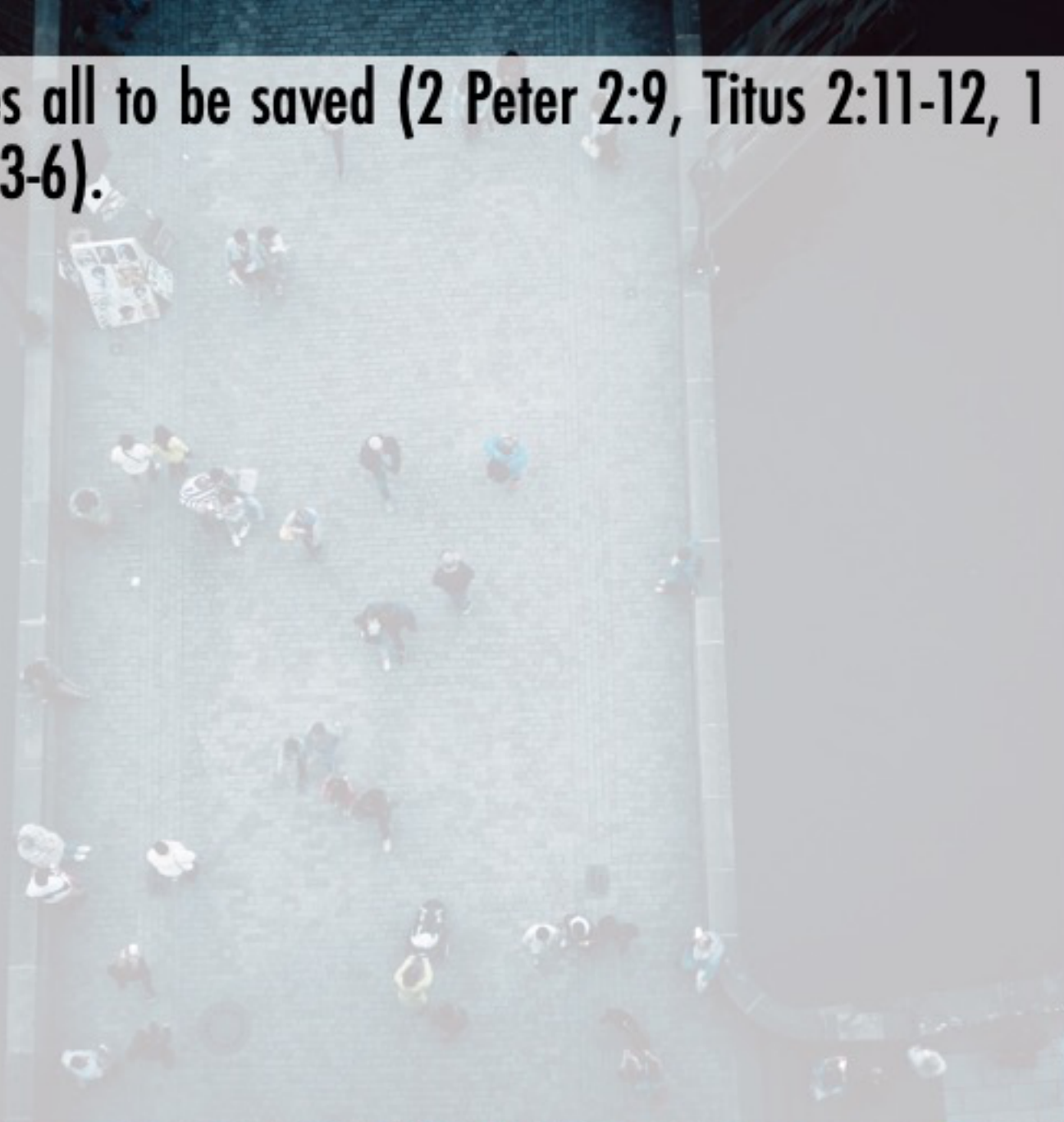
**PREDESTINATION MEANS A CERTAIN
PLAN, STRUCTURE, OR EXPECTATION
HAS BEEN PREDETERMINED**

**(AND FREE WILL ULTIMATELY DETERMINES YOUR PLACE
IN THAT PLAN)**

An aerial, high-angle photograph of a busy city street. The street is paved with cobblestones and is flanked by buildings. Numerous people are walking in various directions, some in groups and some alone. The lighting is somewhat dim, suggesting an overcast day or late afternoon. The overall tone is blue and grey.

GOD IS NOT SELECTIVE OR PARTIAL

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- If salvation has already been determined, and the number of those saved "cannot be either increased or diminished", what is the purpose of this life? Why not skip it and go straight to eternity? Actually, Jesus clearly teaches that the actions of this life determine eternal destination (Matthew 25:31ff, John 5:28-29).

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- The devil is not a serious threat if predestination is true (1 Peter 5:8-10).
- We are, indeed, called according to God's purpose, but not by a "still small voice" or God's individual selection; by the Gospel (2 Thessalonians 2:14).

- One final argument against this false view of predestination is that God is shown, at times, to be shocked by people's unexpected behavior (Isaiah 5:1-7)! God expresses His dismay that Israel practiced abominations such as child sacrifice (Jer. 7:31, 19:4-5, 32:35). It did not even "enter God's mind" that they could be so morally polluted.

GOD'S EMOTIONAL RESPONSE

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- The very fact that God becomes angry or joyful indicates He has not predestined individuals for salvation or condemnation. Otherwise, why the wasted emotional energy? Why be angry over apostates who were going to leave anyway? Why joy over lost souls who were always going to come back in the end (Luke 15)? Why such disappointment over the rich young ruler? Why lop off branches (Rom. 11) that were destined to be grafted back on?

GOD'S EMOTIONAL RESPONSE