

From the Foundation of the World!
Chosen — Predestined — Elect
Born Again — Redeemed — Saved — Secure

Jesus, from His throne next to the Father, told John, the Apostle, to write down in his Revelation for all to know that—***“It is finished! I am the Alpha and the Omega—the Beginning and the End.”***

Whatever beginning we can imagine, Christ was already there—outside of time with no real beginning and with no future ending. He IS! As He noted himself, ***I AM!***

Jesus was showing and telling John everything that He wanted John to write to include the great events that would bring about the consummation of history, the Rapture, the Tribulation, His second coming, the apocalypse, and all that had not previously been disclosed. That Jesus was, in fact, the beginning and the end, the start and the finish of what He, Jesus, referred to from the Cross—when He said, ***It is finished!*** His battle with “time” in an earthly body was finished. He paid the price for our sins and ***it is finished***—forever and ever.

But let's be clear, Christ has always been, because He is without beginning!

Early in Genesis God said—***Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us.*** The “us” and “our” included Jesus, the coming Christ, and the Holy Spirit who was and is our teacher, comforter, and companion for all eternity. As we have often sung, “Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee; Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! **God in three Persons**, blessed Trinity!” God is available to us 24/7 through Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Just as I, in my life, have been available to my family as son, husband, and father—a trinity of three persons, in one.

The Apostle John was fully aware that Christ was God in human form and was eternal with no beginning, as he had written a few years earlier: ***In the beginning [before all time] was the Word (Christ), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God Himself. He was [continually existing] in the beginning [co-eternally] with God. All things were made and came into existence through Him; and without Him not even one thing was made that has come into being.*** John 1:1-3 Amp

Now, let's consider what took place at the beginning (before time), according to what God made clear to us during Jesus' time on earth, and the subsequent writing of God's Holy Word—the Bible! And for this Musing, think about this question. Were we, you and me, even a “thought” in our Creator God's mind before the beginning of creation (universe, earth, time)?

Indeed **we were more than a thought**. In fact, every one of the words under the title of this Musing were not just started—but finished—and firmly established, in time and eternity, before, at, and after the Cross.

He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself... by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. Ephesians 1:4-6

Believe it! It was all done and completed before we were ever born. Before the earth itself was created!

We are united with Christ. Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. — Ephesians 1:3

Even our Lord Jesus Christ, in human-body form, confirmed that He was created, as a human man, long before He was conceived in His mother's womb, as was noted in this passage from the Proverbs — *“The Lord formed me from the beginning, before he created anything else. I was appointed before the earth began. I was born before the oceans were created, before the springs bubbled forth their waters. Before the mountains were formed, before the hills, I was born— before he had made the earth. I was there when he established the heavens, when he set the clouds above, when he set the limits of the seas, when he marked off the earth’s foundations, I was the architect at his side.”* Proverbs 8:22-31

Can we let our imagination be stretched to see that each one of us were in God's creative mind's eye before He created our earth, the stars, the sun and moon, and humanity at large. He planned our name, our gender, our parents, and our nationality.

And don't stop there. At a pre-determined age, God opened the eyes of our heart, and whether young, or older, we were born again—we believed. God opened the mind of our understanding to see the gift of His son, who came, subject to "time" and paid the full price for our sins. Truth rushed into our new spirit and heart through His indwelling Holy Spirit which was joined to our renewed spirit and we instantly became one with Christ—as God's adopted child... eternally.

God is Spirit—our very life is now a life that has neither a beginning nor an end — we are identified with Christ and everything past and everything future of His life has been joined to our life—we are one. Our frail bodies will be replaced at our resurrection on Christ's coming return to earth, but our spirit (joined to the Holy Spirit) and our unique soul (that makes each of us different) is infinite. Our spirit was renewed, our soul was cleansed, and our new body is created and waiting for us.

The following verses from Isaiah 40 are selected from The Message...

God sits high above the round ball of earth. He stretches out the skies like a canvas. He ignores what all the princes say and do. The rulers of the earth count for nothing. They don't amount to much. Look at the night skies: Who do you think made all this? Who marches this army of stars out each night, counts them off, calls each by name and never overlooks a single one? He's Creator of all you can see or imagine. He doesn't get tired out, doesn't pause to catch his breath. And he knows everything, inside and out. Those who wait upon God get fresh strength. They spread their wings and soar like eagles.

Other telling verses from both the Old and New Testaments...

You are the one who created my innermost parts; you knit me together while I was still in my mother's womb. Your eyes saw my embryo, and you watched me grow from conception to birth — all the stages of my life were spread out before you, before I'd even lived one day. — Psalm 139:13 & 16

God the Father knew you and chose you long ago, and his Spirit has made you holy. All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. 1 Peter 1:2-4

In a statement about the father of the Prodigal Son, Brian Simmons noted: “[The Father] runs to meet us on the path, long before we have made our way to his house. He wraps us up in robes of righteousness, throwing a celebration for our homecoming. There are no lectures, only tears of joy.”

The Lord will protect me from all evil; God will protect my very life. The Lord will protect me on my journeys—whether going or coming—from now until forever from now. — Psalm 121:7-8

Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day, our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that will last forever! We don't look at the troubles we can see; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen — the things we cannot see will last forever. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him. 1 Corinthians 2:9

Chosen — You were chosen before the foundation of the world!

Predestined — You were predestined to be God's child!

Elect — Your name was in the Book of Life from the beginning of time!

Born Again — Your very faith to believe was a gift from God!

Redeemed — You have been redeemed from the curse of the law!

Saved — You called on the name of the Lord, and are saved from God's wrath!

Secure — You are sealed in Christ by God's indwelling Holy Spirit!

I recall asking Ian Thomas, "So, what is our response to be?" He replied... "There is only one response. 'Thank You, Father!'"

It was, it has been, it is, and it will be—*It is finished!!!*