

## IS TOMORROW UNKNOWN?

You do not see how God can know  
Our choice in future time,  
Because free-will would then be lost?  
Then, study, please, this rhyme.

We know our choices yesterday,  
Though they exist no more.  
We fixed them then; who fixes them  
If God sees those in store?

The problem is we're trapped between  
The past and future's brink,  
And without using terms of time  
We cannot speak or think.

The future of our past becomes  
Tomorrow's yesterday,  
But what keeps God from seeing time  
In quite another way?

Can God not move unharnessed by  
Created time and space,  
So that He fills two spots at once,  
Or two times in one place?

He sees my future's history  
Yet tests and warns me now.  
I still must choose, for though He sees,  
My choice determines how.

Existing outside space and time,  
He lives inside them, too;  
And though He knows beginning's end,  
He works with what we do.

I AM, Who fills eternity,  
Looks in and deals with me,  
Not based on knowledge in advance,  
But on my liberty.

Since He diversely feels and works  
At once with all mankind,  
Then He can judge each present deed,  
Though future floods His mind.

For at one time His heart reacts  
A billion different ways.  
I trust His daily justice while  
He knows my future days.

So, if God knows a “you” to come,  
Your choice today is free,  
And will be every day until  
That “you” has come to be.

But if God speaks of future things  
By otherwise than sight,  
It's I who have a problem now:  
He always tells us right!

He might as well be seeing, if  
He knows by perfect guess;  
That changes nothing said so far  
But takes more faith, not less.

But, if His guess is not quite right,  
Yet prophecy precise  
In details of what men will do,  
I find this not so nice.

Because, sometimes, one prophecy  
Will surely come to pass,  
And as it does, it takes the acts  
Of wills of men in mass.

If God's not merely watching men,  
Foreseeing what they'll do,  
It's then free choice is fixed and lost:  
Who makes His words come true?

It makes more sense if He observes  
Free choices of your will;  
Be glad He knows your future ones—  
You have your freedom still.

Most Christians do not fear the thought,  
But praise God and rejoice,  
That He foreknows not ours alone  
But every human choice.

No matter what will happen soon,  
We're peacefully secure  
To trust that what tomorrow brings  
Is known by Him for sure.

Then why did He create the world  
While knowing man would fall?  
He also saw that someday we  
Would choose Him at His call.

The Church's faith has always been  
To think the future known  
And prophecy of human facts  
As real and clearly shown.

And why can't God have vision like  
A simple man once had,  
For Abraham saw Jesus' day,  
And having seen, was glad.

And if the future was not there,  
Then how for you and me  
Did Jesus bear our many sins  
In death on Calvary?

If still you think God can't foreknow,  
For unity and grace  
Among the churches where you go,  
Be slow to state your case.

And when you do express your thought,  
Please, say that it's your "view,"  
Aware of why the bulk of us  
Cannot agree with you.

— *David L. Hatton, 1977*