

God Came to Save His Own

Matthew 1:18-25

Luke 2:1-14

Hebrews 10:1-14



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God's Eternal Purpose

- Before there was time, space, and matter GOD **decreed** (purposed, willed, planned) some to be His special people for all eternity. (Eph 1:4; 1 Peter 2:9; 2 Thess 2:13-14). **This is the doctrine of ELECTION.**
 - ★ Before time began (creation) God wrote these people's names in His Book of Life. (Revelation 17:8; Luke 10:20)
- God planned to accomplish His purpose through Christ. (Ephesians 3:8-11)
- God's plan to save His people was much more than sending Christ to die on a Cross! See handout: *God's Eternal Purpose and Me*
- God's plan to save His people began in eternity past and **continues** to eternity future.
- God executing His eternal purpose/plan is called "the Gospel" which He revealed starting in Genesis 1:1 and continues through until Revelation 22:21.
- Before there was time, space, and matter-there was GOD. (Genesis 1:1; Isaiah 57:15)
- Before there was time, space, and matter GOD the Father, GOD the Son, and GOD the Spirit (ONE GOD) entered into an EVERLASTING COVENANT.
 - ☆ GOD, the Father, gave His "chosen ones" (the Elect) to His Son to live and die in their place. (John 6:37-40; 10:27-29; 17:2, 6, 8-9, 11, 24)
 - ☆ GOD, the Son, agreed to be the "chosen ones" **SURETY** (Hebrews 7:22) and PAY the PENALTY for their sins and be their RIGHTEOUSNESS. (2 Cor 5:21; Isaiah 53:11; Jer 33:16; 1 Cor 1:30; Philip 3:9)
 - GOD, the Father, foreordained the CROSS before time began. (1 Peter 1:19-20; Rev 13:8; Acts 2:23; 4:27-28)
 - ☆ GOD, the Holy Spirit, would be given to God's "chosen ones" as a **GUARANTEE** (Eph. 1:13-14; 4:30; 2 Cor 1:22; 5:5), to give them **ETERNAL LIFE** (John 3:8), and cause them to **DO** God's commandments. (Ezekiel 36:27)
- ☆ This **EVERLASTING COVENANT** (Hebrews 13:20-21) was made in ETERNITY and is a **SURE** THING because in ETERNITY everything is NOW – already DONE. **THIS IS GRACE.** (Romans 8:28-30; Ephesians 2:4-10; 2 Timothy 1:9)

- As part of His **DECREE** (purpose, plan, will, desire) GOD **determined everything** that would happen in order that His will, plan, and purpose would be fulfilled. (Lam 3:37-38; Acts 15:18; 17:26; Isaiah 41:22-23; 46:9-11; Ephesians 1:11). **THIS IS THE DOCTRINE OF PREDESTINATION.** God does not FAIL! (2 Corinthians 1:20-22)
- **NOTHING HAPPENS BY ACCIDENT or CHANCE!** (Lamentations 3:37-38; Proverbs 16:33; Acts 3:6)

ALL THIS HAPPENED BEFORE GENESIS 1:1

In the Beginning GOD Created (Genesis 1:1)

- To fulfill His **DECREE** (will, purpose, plan, desire) GOD created (out of nothing) **SPACE, MATTER** (Isaiah 40:26; 44:24; 48:14; Psalm 102:25), and **TIME** (all history - Hebrews 1:2-3; 2:9-10; Colossians 1:17);
- **EVERYTHING** exists for His Glory! (Romans 11:33-36; Prov 16:4; Revelation 4:11) **EVERYTHING!**
- HISTORY (TIME, God's plan) is LINEAR. It had a BEGINNING and it has an END. It is moving toward JUDGMENT. (2 Cor 5:9-10; Romans 2:5-11; Revelation 20:11-15; Acts 17:30-31; 2 Timothy 4:1)
- CREATION is as an important part of GOD's SALVATION for His "chosen ones". God does everything for His glory and the good of HIS people. (Romans 8:28)

GOD Created ADAM - Our FEDERAL Head (Genesis 1-3; Romans 5)

- Adam was created in the image of GOD as our REPRESENTATIVE.
- (Genesis 3) Adam, our REPRESENTATIVE, sinned! (Acts 17:26)
 - When Adam sinned, we sinned. (Romans 3:23)
 - When God cursed Adam, God cursed us. (Romans 5:18)
- We are born into this world with Adam's image (Genesis 5:1-3). Our nature is that of a SINNER. (Ephesians 2:1-3) We sin because we are born sinners. We are born **in bondage** to Satan, the world and sin.
- Adam's sin was NOT a surprise to GOD. GOD **decreed** (willed, purposed, planned) that sin would enter into and be part of His creation (plan, purpose). (Eph 1:11; Acts 15:18; Isaiah 46:9-11)
- God promised "another ADAM" in Genesis 3:15. This "ADAM", like the first, would be the REPRESENTATIVE of His people.

ABOUT 4,000 YEARS LATER

(John 5:17)

In the Fullness of Time (Galatians 4:4)

- In accordance to HIS DECREE (plan, purpose, counsel, will) God sent His Son.
 - His Son's life, death, resurrection, and ascension were all "written down" before time began! (Psalm 40:7-8; Hebrews 10:7-9; 1 Peter 1:20)
- Just as judgment, condemnation, eternal death, and physical death entered the world through ONE MAN's sin, justification and eternal life would come

- through the OBEDIENCE of ONE MAN – JESUS CHRIST - the second ADAM. (**Romans 5:15-21**)
- Christ came to “do His will (plan, purpose, counsel, decree)”. (John 4:34; 5:30; 6:38)
 - The Father’s will for Christ: “. . . **all** that He has **given** Me (His elect) I should lose **nothing**, but should raise it up at the last day.” (John 6:39)
 - ★ **GOD HIMSELF CAME TO SAVE HIS PEOPLE!** (Matthew 1:21-23)
 - THIS IS A **GREAT MYSTERY** – WITHOUT CONTROVERSY! (1 Timothy 3:16):
 - “mystery of godliness” - **MEDITATE: GOD coming in the flesh!! THIS IS THE DOCTRINE OF INCARNATION.**
- ❶ Christ was “manifested” (revealed) in the flesh! He became man! He set aside His majesty and made Himself of no reputation. (Philippians 2:5-9; Romans 1:3; 8:3; Heb 2:11; 4:15; 10:1-10 John 1:14; Galatians 4:4)
 - ★ Man sinned, therefore, man must die! (Rom 6:23; Ezek 18:4)
 - ★ Christ is fully man **and** fully God. It **must** be!
 - ① Only God can save. (Isaiah 45:22; 43:11)
 - ② Only God could ransom a soul. Sin requires a ransom that only God can pay! (Psalm 49:7-8)
 - ③ **Our total depravity makes saving ourselves impossible, only God can do the impossible.** (Mark 10:25-27)
 - ❷ Christ was “justified” in the Spirit. He was **declared righteous**. He was **without sin**. (2 Cor 5:21; Heb 4:15; 5:9; 7:26; 1 John 3:5; 2:1; 1 Peter 2:22; 3:18).
 - ❸ Christ was “seen” (to attend to; to see; to observe) by angels. (Luke 2:9-14; Matt 4:11; 28:2-7; Luke 22:42-43; Acts 1:1)
 - ❹ Christ is preached among the nations. (Matt 28:19-20; Acts 1:8; John 3:16; 1 John 2:2; Revelations 5:9)
 - ❺ Christ is believed on in the world. (Acts 2:41; Acts 6; Acts 10)
 - ❻ When Christ **finished** God’s plan (John 4:34; 19:30; Hebrews 1:3) He ascended into heaven (Acts 1:9-10) and **sat down** at the right hand of God (Hebrews 1:3). He is there now interceding for those whom He died. (Hebrews 7:25; Romans 8:34)
- Christ came to REDEEM His brethren - given to Him by God. (Hebrews 2:14)
- In order to redeem as the Law required (Leviticus 25:47-49) – He must:
- ① Be **related** by birth. He must be a **Kinsman-Redeemer**. Christ is our Brother! (Hebrews 2:11-12; Matt 1:21; 12:50; Rom 8:29)
 - ② Be **able** to redeem! Christ is the “Mighty God.” (Isaiah 9:6; Mark 3:27; John 17:2; Matthew 28:18; Romans 9:5)
 - ③ Be **free** Himself. (2 Cor 5:21; 1 Peter 2:22; Hebrews 4:15; 1 John 3:5; 2:1; John 14:20)
 - ④ Be **wealthy** to pay the price. (1 Peter 1:18-19; Psalm 49:15)
 - ⑤ Be **willing** to redeem. Christ came to do the will of His Father. (John 4:34; John 6:37-40; **John 10:17-18**; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 5:2, 25; Titus

2:14; Revelation 1:5)

- God sent His Son to herald His message of peace - God's gospel of PEACE. (Romans 10:15; Ephesians 6:15). **NOT AN INITIATION BUT AN ULTIMATUM.** MEN ARE NOT ASKED TO BELIEVE BUT COMMANDED TO BELIEVE. (1 John 3:23)
 - God terms for peace with Him:
 - ① Continually confess and repent of your sins. (Mark 1:14-17; 1 Jn 1:8-9)
 - ② Continually believe in the gospel. (Mark 1:14-17)
 - ③ Confess with your mouth, "Jesus is LORD." (Romans 10:9-10)
 - ④ Refusing to continually repent, believe and bow to Christ as LORD will bring God's eternal wrath. (John 3:18, 36; Luke 13:1-5)

ABOUT 33 YEARS LATER AFTER HIS INCARNATION

GOD Sacrificed His Own Son (Isaiah 53:10; Romans 8:32)

- It was God's will that His own Son would be crucified – He planned (decreed, willed, purposed) it before time! (1 Peter 1:20)
- His Son came to be the SURETY (Hebrew's 7:22; Psalm 69:8; Isaiah 53:6) for His people (God's elect).
- Christ came to "give His life as a ransom **for many** (not all)." (Matthew 1:21; 20:28; John 10:18; Isaiah 53:11, 12; Hebrews 9:28)
- GOD is HOLY, HOLY, HOLY! (Isaiah 6:4; 1 Peter 1:15-16)
- Because of His holiness God must JUDGE sin, all sin, anywhere He finds it - even if it is in His own Son! (Romans 8:32; Isaiah 53:10)
- Christ came to **propitiate** (appease) God's holy anger at His people. (1 John 4:10; 2:2; Romans 3:25-26)
- Because Christ fulfilled His part of the **everlasting covenant** God **is** keeping His part. (John 4:34; 19:11; Hebrews 8:10-12)
- ★ **GOD DID ALL FOR US!** (Rom 5:8; 8:31, 32, 34; 1 Cor 1:30; 5:7; 2 Cor 5:21; Gal 3:13; Eph 5:2; 1 Thess 5:10; Titus 2:14; Heb 6:20; 9:24; 10:20; 1 Peter 2:21; 4:1; 1 John 3:16; 4:16)
- ★ **GOD SENT HIS SON TO SAVE HIS PEOPLE FROM THEIR SINS!**
- ★ **CHRIST CAME TO DO THE WILL** (wishes, plans, counsel, desires purpose) of GOD. And HE FINISHED it.
- ★ **WHAT DID HE FINISH?** Through His death He satisfied God's anger toward God's special people. Through His death on the Cross God's anger was propitiated. Christ FINISHED the work! **HE DID NOT COME TO MAKE SALVATION POSSIBLE - HE SAVED!**

LET'S REMEMBER!