

BORN AGAIN

John 3:1-8

Ezekiel 36:22-32

1 Peter 1:1-9



Watching the Moon

God's Eternal Purpose

- ★ He does ALL for His pleasure and glory! (Eph 1:5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14; 2:7)

The Gospel of God (Rom 1:1; 15:16; 2 Cor 11:7; 1 Thess 2:2, 8, 9; 1 Peter 4:17)

- ★ It is no small thing. (Handout: God's Eternal Purpose and Me)
- ★ It is much, much bigger than we were taught.

THE MOST HIGH GOD (53x; Daniel 4:17; 5:18; Lamentations 3:37-38)

- He is ETERNAL, ALMIGHTY, ALL-KNOWING, CREATOR, and therefore, SOVEREIGN.
- He ALWAYS does what He pleases, only as He pleases, when He pleases, and with whatever He pleases. (Psalm 115:3; 135:6; Job 23:13; Isaiah 46:9-11; Daniel 4:35; 5:18; Ephesians 1:11)
- NO CREATURE can STOP Him from doing as He pleases. (Job 42:2; Proverbs 19:21; Isaiah 43:13)

God's Golden Chain of Grace (Romans 8:28-30)



Before the Foundation of the World

- FIRST came ELECTION – the Most High God choosing His special people. (1 Peter 2:9-10; Ephesians 1:4; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14)
 - ★ He wrote their names in the Lamb's Book of Life before time began. (Revelation 13:8; 17:8; Luke 10:20)
- BECAUSE God elected persons He **predestined** all of history to accomplish His purpose in conforming them into the image of His Son. (Ephesians 1:5, 11; Acts 15:18)

- BECAUSE God elected persons He entered into an **everlasting covenant** with His Son. (Hebrews 8:10-12)
- BECAUSE God elected persons he **predetermined** the Cross before time began in order to save His people from their sins. (1 Peter 1:20; Acts 2:23; 3:18; 4:27-28)

He Created to Make Us His Own

- God created TIME, SPACE, and MATTER out of nothing by the power of His Word. (Genesis 1:1; Psalm 33:6; Exodus 20:; Isaiah 40:26; John 1:3; Hebrews 1:2; 11:3; 2 Peter 3:5)
- God created EVERYTHING for Himself. (Proverbs 16:4; Rev 4:11)
- Man's (creatures) chief end (duty) is to FEAR and GLORIFY his Creator by obeying Him and ENJOYING his Creator. (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; Job 28:28; Psalm 115:13-15; Proverbs 19:23; Romans 11:36)
- God created ADAM as our FEDERAL HEAD and through Adam's sin we ALL sinned and were cursed. (Genesis 1-3; Romans 5)
- God promised ANOTHER FEDERAL HEAD – another Adam that would save His people from their sins. (Genesis 3:15; 1 Cor 15:45, 47)

He Came to Save His Own (Matthew 1:21; Galatians 4:4-7)

- As He had decreed, planned and promised, God sent His own Son to die for His people's sins.
- Christ, God Himself, ***came to save His people.***
 - 1 Timothy 3:16; Philippians 2:5-11
- Answering the question: But did not Christ come to die for all people?
 - This is a lie we have inherited from our forefathers.
 - Why this cannot be?
 - What about John 3:16; 1 John 2:2; 2 Peter 3:9; 1 Timothy 2:4; Hebrews 2:9-12?
 - What did Isaiah prophecy in Isaiah 53? (See vv. 8, 11, etc)
 - What did the angel say to Joseph? (Matthew 1:21)
 - What did Jesus teach in John 10:11, 26-29?
 - What did Christ say in Matthew 26:28?
- Christ came to **do** the **will** (decree, pleasure, purpose, plan) of His Father. (John 4:34; 5:30; 6:38; Hebrews 10:7-9; Psalm 40:7-8)
- Christ came to live a perfect life and die on the Cross for **all** that the Father had given Him in the everlasting covenant. (John 6:37-39; 10:27-30; 17:2, 6, 8-9, 11, 24; **Hebrews 9:12**)

We Were Born Totally Depraved

- ALL of us were born "children of wrath, just as the others". (Ephesians 2:1-3; Genesis 5:3; Psalm 51:5)
- ALL of us were born "children of the devil". (John 8:44; Eph 2:2; 1 John 3:10)

- We are born with a **“sin nature”**.
 - ✗ Our minds and thoughts are only evil. The natural man **cannot** understand the things of God! (Genesis 6:5; 1 Cor 2:14; Eph 4:18)
 - ✗ Our emotions are twisted. We love anything more than our Creator. (1 John 2:15-17; James 4:4; Luke 14:26; Eph 2:2-3)
 - ✗ Our wills are in **BONDAGE** to sin, the World, and our flesh. We **cannot** do anything to please God. (Romans 8:7; John 8:31-32, 34, 36; Heb 11:6)
- When Adam sinned **we** sinned because all of us were “in Adam” when he sinned. (Romans 5:12)
- We are born **“DEAD** in our trespasses” - Eph 2:1, 5; Col 2:13.
- It was/is IMPOSSIBLE for us to do anything to save ourselves! (Romans 5:6; Luke 18:25-27)

Our Lives

- (Psalm 139:16) Each and every day of our lives are **written** in God’s book. Our lives are **planned** by God!
- (James 4:13-16) GOD WILLS OUR LIVES – NOT US!!!
- Those who DO GOD’s WILL will abide with Him forever! (Matthew 7:21-23; 1 John 2:15-17)

How Does One Become A Believer?

- One becomes “born-again” or “born from above” by the **will** of **GOD**! (John 1:12-13; 3:3, 5, 7; James 1:18) Children of God are born of God!



- We are born with NO DESIRE for God. (Isaiah 53:2-3)
- NO ONE seeks after God. (Romans 3:11-12; Psalm 14:2)
- We are born SINNERS. (Romans 5:8; Genesis 6:5)
- We are born ENEMIES of GOD. (Rom 5:10; 8:7; Col 1:21)
- We are born in need of RECONCILIATION with God. (2 Cor 2:18-19)



- HEART: Our mind, our emotions, our will - Who we are!
- We are born with hearts of stone – lifeless toward God. (Ezekiel 36:26-27)
- We are likened to a bunch of “very dry dead bones”. (Ezek 37:1-4)
- We are born DEAD in our sins. (Ephesians 2:1-3, 5)
- We are born “without any strength/ability”. (Romans 5:6)

GRACE
THERE ARE NEVER ANY "IFs"!



- **BUT GOD** . . . (Ephesians 2:4-10)
- GOD says, "**I WILL** . . . "
 - "**I WILL** circumsise your heart . . . so that you will love Me." (Deuteronomy 30:6)
 - "**I WILL** clean you, **I WILL** give you a **NEW HEART**. (Ezek 36:26) (**HEART**: mind, emotions, will)
 - "**I will give you ETERNAL LIFE!**" (Romans 6:23b)
 - "I will give you one heart so that you will fear Me, for your good and your children. (Jer. 32:38-42)



- "On the **NEW HEART** that I give you **I WILL** write My Law to cause you to love My Law." (Ezekiel 36:27)
- "**I WILL** give My Spirit who will cause you to walk (obey) in My commandments." (Ezekiel 36:27)
- "**I WILL** "recreate you" into a **NEW CREATURE!**" (2 Cor 5:17)
- "**I WILL** cause you to be "born-again" or "born-from-above" and I will be your Father and you will be My children." (James 1:18; John 1:13; 3:3-8; 1 John 3:6-10)



- "**I WILL** cloth you with MY **RIGHTEOUSNESS!**" (**Isaiah 61:10**; Philippians 3:9; Luke 15:22; Romans 3:22)
- Jeremiah 23:6; 33:16; Isaiah 45:24-25; 1 Cor 1:30; 2 Cor 5:21
- God **gifts** His children with His righteousness. (Romans 5:17)



- "**I WILL give** you the **gift** of **FAITH** and cause you to **BELIEVE**." (Ephesians 2:8-9; Acts 13:48; Philippians 1:29)
- "**I WILL give** you **REPENTANCE** as a **GIFT** and I will turn you back to My Word and My ways." (Acts 5:31; 11:18; 2 Timothy 2:25)



- "**I WILL** give you a **REAL** desire for Me." (Psalm 42:1-2; 63:1-3; 73:25-26)
- "**I WILL** cause you to **LOVE** My Law." (Psalm 119:24, 77, 165, 174; 1 John 2:3-6; 3:24; 5:2-3; John 14:15, 21-22, 24; 15:7-10; 2 Corinthians 5:9)
- The children of God "crave the pure milk of Scripture" by which they grow. (1 Peter 2:1-3)



- "**I WILL** save you **unto good works** that I foreordained for you **before** the foundation of the world." (Eph 2:10)
- "You will be **zealous** for **good works**." (Titus 2:14)