

To Whom We ALL Must Give Account

Hebrews 4:12-13

Ecclesiastes 12:9-14

Revelation 20:11-15



23 November 2025

God's Eternal Purpose and Me (See Handout) (Ephesians 3:8-11)

God's Golden Chain of GRACE (Romans 8:29-30)



Before the Foundation of the World

- Before SPACE, TIME, and MATTER there was . . .
- Everything begins with the MOST HIGH, ETERNAL, SELF-EXISTING, CREATING GOD. (Isaiah 57:15)
- **BEFORE TIME** God electd (chose) some to be His special people for all eternity. (Ephesians 1:4; 1 Peter 2:9; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14)
- **BEFORE TIME** God, the Father, entered into a **covenant** with God, the Son and gave His ELECT to His Son to die for. God foreordained the CROSS before time began! (John 6:37-40; John 10:27-29; 17:2, 6, 8-9, 11, 24; 1 Peter 1:19-20; Ephesians 3:11)
- **BEFORE TIME** the Son agreed to act as the **SURETY** (Substitute) for God's elect and pay the penalty for their sins. (Hebrews 7:22; Isa 53:6; 1 Pet 3:18)
- **BEFORE TIME** God predestined (decreed) everything that happens in HIS WORLD. (Acts 15:18; Isaiah 41:22-23; 44:7; 45:21; 46:9-11)

He Created to Make Us His Own

- To fulfill His eternal purpose (will, decree, plan) God created (out of nothing) SPACE (all), TIME (all), and MATTER (all). (Genesis 1:1; Hebrews 1:2-3; 2:9-10; Colossians 1:17; Jeremiah 10:11-12)
- Everything (space, time, matter) exists for HIS GLORY/for HIMSELF! (Romans 11:33-36; Proverbs 16:4; Colossians 1:15-17; Revelation 4:11)
- As part of His eternal purpose (plan, decree, will) God appointed one man, ADAM, to be our FEDERAL HEAD - our representative and entered into a covenant with him.

- Adam, our representative, SINNED! And when he sinned we all sinned! (Romans 5:12, 18; 3:23)
- God promised “another ADAM” – “another Representative”. (Genesis 3:16; 1 Corinthians 15:22, 45)

He Came to Save His Own

- To fulfill His **eternal purpose** (will, decree, plan), “in the fullness of time” (Galatians 4:4) God sent His Son to live and die for HIS PEOPLE. (Matthew 1:21; Hebrews 2:10-11; John 6:37-39; 10:27-28; 4:34; 5:30)
- After 33 years of **perfect obedience** God **sacrificed** His own Son (Romans 8:32; Isaiah 53:11; Matthew 20:28) **for** His people’s sins!
- Christ’s death on the Cross **propitiated** (appeased) God’s holy anger at His people. (1 John 4:10; 2:2; Romans 3:25-26)
- Christ **finished** the work that God the Father sent Him to do! (John 4:34; 17:4; 19:11; **Hebrews 9:12**)

Born Totally Depraved

- As part of God’s **eternal purpose** (will, decree, plan) we are born into this world as descendants of ADAM.
- Because Adam sinned we all sinned and are born sinners. (Rom 3:23; 11:32; Eccl 7:20; Galatians 3:22; 1 John 1:8-10)
- We are born addicted to sin, **in bondage** to sin, Satan, the world and the lusts and desires of our own flesh, by nature children of wrath – just like everyone else. (Eph 2:2-3) We are born DEAD in our trespasses (Ephesians 2:1) without any ability to save ourselves. (Rom 5:6; Col 2:13; Ezek 36:26-27; **Luke 18:25-27**)

Born-Again

- To fulfill His **eternal purpose** (will, decree, plan) in the fullness of time God sends forth His Spirit with His Word (John 3:8; Galatians 4:1, 7) to bring NEW LIFE (Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:8-9; 2 Corinthians 5:17) to His people.
- God uses HIS GOSPEL to **CALL** His children to Himself. (Romans 10:14-15)
- At rebirth, GOD takes our dead hearts of stone and gives us NEW HEARTS and gives us HIS SPIRIT. (Ezekiel 36:26-27)
- At rebirth, we become CHILDREN of GOD who now practice righteousness. (John 1:12-13; James 1:18; 1 John 3:1-10)
- With a NEW HEART and HIS SPIRIT our minds are enlightened (we can understand - 1 John 5:20; 1 Cor 2:14); our emotions are enflamed with love for God (1 John 5:1-3); and our wills are set free to obey God! (John 8:32; Romans 6:17-22).

Maturing As A Disciple

- To fulfill His **eternal purpose** (will, decree, plan) with a NEW HEART and HIS SPIRIT GOD now continues to **sanctify** those whom He sanctified as His children. (Hebrews 2:11; 10:14)

- In accordance to His **eternal purpose**, having **predestined** that all of His children before conformed to the image of His Son, God, according to His **providence** now uses His Word, His Church, and the circumstances (trials, troubles, tribulations, successes, good times, etc.) of life to do just that!
- The children of God **mature daily**. (2 Cor 3:18; 4:16-17; Proverbs 4:18)

Already in Heaven

- To **fulfill** His **eternal purpose** (will, decree, plan), GOD has **GLORIFIED** (notice the past tense) us (Romans 8:30) by “raising us up together (with Christ) and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. (Ephesians 2:6).
- Since God’s covenant with Christ was an ETERNAL COVENANT everything was/is/will always be NOW! What God purposes He does! (Isaiah 14:24-27; 46:9-11; Job 23:13; Proverbs 19:21; 21:30; Eph 1:11)
- We are CONFIDENT of this because OUR SALVATION (from start to finish) is the WORK of GOD! (Philip 1:6; Psalm 138:8; 1 Thess 5:23-24; 1 Peter 5:10)
- In God’s ETERNAL eyes, we are ALREADY IN HEAVEN because of HIS ETERNAL COVENANT with Christ. (Ephesians 2:6)

ALL Will Be Judged

- **ALL** will be judged. (Hebrews 4:13; 2 Timothy 4:1-2; 1 Corinthians 3:12-15)
- **ALL** will be judged by the “Judge of All the Earth”. (Genesis 18:25; **Isaiah 33:22**; Psalm 50:6; 75:7)
- **ALL** will be judged “with righteousness and . . . **with truth**.” (Psalm 96:10, 13; 98:9; Psalm 7:11)
- **ALL** will be judged for their WORKS. (Romans 2:6; Job 34:11; Psalm 62:12; Jer 17:10; 32:19; Matthew 16:27; John 5:24-29; 2 Cor 5:10; Rev 2:23; 22:12)
- **Christ is the JUDGE of ALL**. (2 Timothy 4:1; **John 5:22-27**; Acts 17:30-31)

Believers Will Be Judged (2 Corinthians 5:9-10)

- “**we all**” – ALL CHRISTIANS!
- “**must**” – no exceptions! “Must” is δεῖ dei {die} means “it is necessary”; “necessity”; “necessity established by the counsel and decree of God”.
- “**appear**” is φανερόω phaneroo “to make manifest or visible or known what has been hidden or unknown”; “to expose to view”; “to make known”; “to be laid bare, stripped of every outward facade of respectability, and openly revealed in the full and true reality”
- (Hebrews 4:13) It is before God, the Creator, that we all **must** give an account!
- (1 John 2:1) **BELIEVERS HAVE AN ADVOCATE WHO DIED FOR US AND HAS BEEN MAKING INTERCESSION FOR US!**
- Christians will NOT be judged for their sins (Romans 8:1; 2 Cor 5:21; 1 Peter 2:24; Rev 2:23; Romans 2:6), but we will have to answer for our **works!**
 - ★ Consider Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; Romans 2:6-11; John 5:28-29;
- WORKS: Our time, our priorities, our obedience, our love, our works.

- “good” and “evil” – “evil” is “worthless” or “useless” - anything not by faith or in accordance with the will of God.
- (1 Corinthians 3:12-15) ALL of our works will be tested. Worthless works will be burned up; valuable works will be shown to be very precious in God’s eyes.
 - This is a judgment “by fire” (but it is also of grace).
 - Worthless works will be burned up but we will be saved - **BUT** we will lose our reward.
 - Crowns (2 Timothy 4:8; 1 Cor 9:25-26; 2 Timothy 2:5; Rev 2:10; James 1:22; 1 Peter 5:4; Proverbs 4:9)
 - ✗ NO CROWN means **SHAME** at His second coming! (1 John 2:28)
 - Our daily prayer: **Luke 21:34-36** - Christ really meant: **always!**
- Our works (our deeds) will be judged “good” if they were done with the “aim” to glorify God or “bad” if they were done for self-interest!
 - ★ (1 Corinthians 10:31) **Whether we eat or drink, or whatever we do, we are to do all for the glory of God.**

Unbelievers Will Be Judged (Revelation 20:11-15)

- ★ **MANY** who sincerely believed they were believers will stand before this judgment! (Matthew 7:21-23)
- ☆ At this judgment there will be —

✗ No opening arguments	✗ No discussion of guilt/innocence
✗ No ADVOCATE!	✗ No partiality/No plea deals
✗ No character witnesses	✗ No cross-examination
✗ NO MERCY	✗ NO APPEALS
- ★ Every thought, word, and deed will be **EVIDENCE** of the unbeliever’s guilt.
 - Psalm 44:21; Romans 2:16; Luke 8:17; Matthew 12:36-37; Eccl 12:14.
- ☆ The standard at this judgment is **PERFECTION**. (Matthew 5:48)
- ★ This judgment is without any pity or mercy and is **ETERNAL**. It is the **VENGEANCE** of God poured out on His enemies. (Nahum 1:2; Heb 10:30)

Tonight Disciples **REMEMBER**

- We **REMEMBER** that the **ETERNAL GOD** elected some to be His own. (1 Peter 2:9; Ephesians 1:4)
- We **REMEMBER** that **GOD** created everything and is moving history to His appointed end. (Proverbs 19:21; Isaiah 46:9-10)
- We **REMEMBER** that **GOD** sent His own Son into this world to save **US** from our sins. (Matthew 1:21; 1 John 4:10; Daniel 9:24; Romans 3:25-26; 1 Peter 3:18)
- We **REMEMBER** that **GOD** is still working in us “to will and do His good pleasure” (Philippians 2:12-13)
- We **REMEMBER** that our salvation from beginning to end is **ALL GRACE** (the power and work of God). (Philippians 1:6; Eph 2:4-5; Hebrews 12:2)