

In the Beginning



20 June 2021

PART 5

Genesis 1:1

Isaiah 14:24-27; Revelation 1:1-8

Do You Know God?

- Do You Know the God of the Bible? What is your knowledge based on - what God say or your opinion?
- This week we considered:
 - Elohiym - the Supreme God
 - Yahweh Elohiym - The Covenant Supreme God
 - El Gadol - the Great God
 - El Shaddai - the Almighty God, All-Sufficient One
 - El Simchah - God, My Exceeding Joy
 - Yare Elohiym - Awesome Supreme God
 - Yahweh Goel - Covenant God, My Redeemer
- Do you know *the Almighty God* or does your God try to do things and fails? Does your God want something but is frustrated from having what He wants because of man? Remember man is a vapor, fading grass, small dust on a scale, less than less than nothing! (James 4:14; Psalm 39:5; 1 Peter 1:24; Isaiah 40:6-8, 15, 17; 37:27)
- Those who know God take Him seriously at His Word, love Him, trust Him, obey His commandments, are zealous for good works and do great exploits.. (Titus 2:14; 1 John 2:3-4; John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 13-14; 1 John 5:3; Daniel 11:32; Pslam 9:10)
- God considers knowledge of Him more important than worship. (Hosea 4:1, 6; 6:6)
- **Are you in AWE of God?** (Psalm 33:8)

In the Beginning God Created

- Elohiym created (out of nothing) EVERYTHING: ALL space, ALL matter, ALL time (ages; history). (Genesis 1:1; Colossians 1:16-18; John 1:1-3).

- “BY HIS WILL” and “BY HIS WORD” He created EVERYTHING. (Revelation 4:11; Psalm 33:6, 9)
- Elohiym created EVERYTHING for Himself. (Prov 16:4; Isaiah 43:21; Romans 11:36; Revelation 4:11)
- God is LORD over ALL because He created ALL. (Acts 10:36; 17:24)
- God is not the Saviour of all but He is Lord of all.

God Has Decreed ONE Plan

- Kings make decrees.
- A king’s decree is his word, desire, wishes, pleasure, will. His decree is Law.

The Decree (Will, Counsel, Plan) of God (Ephesians 1:11)

- It is SINGULAR because:
 - ① God DOES NOT have MANY plans. God NEVER fails. God NEVER makes a mistake.
 - ② God is ETERNAL (outside of time) – to Him EVERYTHING is NOW.
 - ③ God does not (cannot) CHANGE.
 - ④ God KNOWS EVERYTHING instantaneously.
- God’s decree is known by other terms:
 - “His decree” - Psalm 2:7; Psalm 148:1-6.
 - “His purpose” (Romans 8:28; 9:11; Ephesians 1:11; 3:11; 2 Timothy 1:9; Isaiah 14:24)
 - “His will” (desire) – Eph 1:5, 9, 11; Daniel 4:35; 1 Cor 1:1; Philippians 2:13; Psalm 135:6; Job 23:13.
 - “His pleasure” - (Isaiah 46:10; 48:14)
 - “His counsel” - Isaiah 46:10-11; Psalm 33:11; Proverbs 19:21; 21:30; Acts 4:28; 2:23.
- God’s foreknowledge is based on His DECREE!
 - ★ He knows everything because He has decreed it.
- God’s decree (not the actions of men) predestines all things. (Note the word “must” from the lips of Jesus: Matt 16:21; 24:6, 54; Mark 8:31; 14:49; Luke 9:22; 24:7, 44; John 3:14; 10:16; 12:34; Acts 23:11)
- What God has **purposed** will/must! come to pass! (Isaiah 14:24-27; Rev 1:1-8; Isaiah 46:8-11; Psalm 33:10; Prov 19:21; 21:30; Lam 3:37-38; Prov 21:1; Revelation 17:17; Eph 1:11) God’s plans will never be frustrated! (Job 42:2) God never **tries** to do anything - HE DOES HIS WILL!

God’s Plan (Decree, Word, Desire, Wish, Pleasure, Counsel)

- It is ETERNAL. (2 Timothy 1:9; Psalm 33:11; Isaiah 37:26; 46:9-10; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; Matthew 25:34; 1 Peter 1:20; Jeremiah 31:3; Acts 15:18; Psalm 139:16; Ephesians 3:11)

- It is **UNCHANGABLE**. (James 1:17; Isaiah 14:24; 46:10-11; Numbers 23:19; Malachi 3:6.)
- It is **WISE**. Psalm 104:24; 136:5; Rom 11:33; 16:27; Colo 2:2-3; Jude 25.
Wisdom is the ability to apply knowledge in a RIGHT and GOOD way.
- It is **FREE**. Isaiah 40:13-14; Romans 11:34. God is not surprised! God's plan comes from with inside of Himself – not outside Him.
- It is **ABSOLUTE and UNCONDITIONAL**. What God has planned WILL happen! By the **command** of God. (Isaiah 46:10; Eph 1:11; Lam 3:37-38)
- It includes the **FUTURE ACTS of MEN**. Daniel 2:28; John 6:64; Matthew 20:18, 19; Luke 22:10-13; 1 Peter 1:20.
- It includes **“chance happenings.”** (Prov 16:33; Jonah 1:7; Job 36:32; 1 Kings 22:28, 34; Job 5:6; Mark 14:30; Gen 37:28 with 45:5; 1 Sam 9:15, 16 and 9:5-10; John 19:23-24 with Psalm 22:18.)
- It includes **FIXED events**. (Luke 22:22; John 8:20; Matthew 24:36; Genesis 41:32; Habakkuk 2:3; Luke 21:24; Job 14:5; 2 Samuel 12:14 with 12:15, 19; Jeremiah 27:7)
- It includes the **SINFUL acts of men**. (Genesis 50:20; Isaiah 45:7; Amos 3:6, 18; Matt 21:42; 2 Saml 12:11 with 16:20-22; 1 Peter 1:20; Acts 2:23; 4:28)
- It includes the **BIG and minute details**. (Matt 10:29-30; Psa 139:16; Psalm 147:4)

The **SOVEREIGN and REVEALED Wills of God** (Deuteronomy 29:29)

- God has **planned** HISTORY (Hebrews 1:2). History is HIS STORY.
- History is the unfolding of **God's** eternal counsel, plan, or decree.
- NOTHING can CHANGE or STOP God's plan from happening. (Job 42:2; Proverbs 19:21; Ecclesiastes 3:14; Isaiah 14:27; 46:10; Daniel 4:35; Ephesians 1:11)
- MUCH of God's sovereign will (plan, decree, counsel) is a mystery to finite minds like ours. (Romans 11:33; Job 37:23; Psalm 36:6; 92:5).
- **The secret things of God belong to God!** (Deuteronomy 29:29)
- **BUT** what has been revealed is for OUR DOING. We need to be concerned with what God has told us to do and let Him be God. All of us will have to give an account of what we have done with His REVEALED will. (Matt 7:21-23, 24-27; 12:50; John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 13-14; 1 John 5:3; Heb 4:13)

God's Will for My Life

- God's plan includes the lives of all human beings. (Psalm 139:16; James 4:13-16; Isaiah 45:9-10; 29:16; 10:15; Romans 9:20-21)
- God planned each person's life before He said, "Let there be light!"
- Consider some examples:
 - **Pharaoh**. God raised Pharaoh at a specific time in history for a specific purpose. (Romans 9:17; Exodus 9:16)

- **King Josiah:** God had determined this king's name and what he would do 325-350 years **before** Josiah was born!! (1 Kings 13:1-3)
- **King Cyrus, the Persian.** God determined his name and what he would do at least 100 years before Cyrus was born!! (Isaiah 44:28; 45:11-13; 48:15)
- **Jeremiah, the Prophet.** Before God formed him in the womb of his mother, God had determined that he would be a prophet to the nations. (Jeremiah 1:5)
- **Widow of Zarephath.** Unknown to her, God moved her to feed and care for His prophet. (1 Kings 17:9)
- **King Hazael of Syria.** Elisha told Hazael what he would do even before Hazael was king.
- **King of Assyria.** This powerful king was only a tool in the hands of God. (Isaiah 10; 37:26-27)
- **The Messiah.** God planned and determined the life of the Messiah before the foundation of the earth. (Daniel 9:20-27; 1 Peter 1:20; Luke 9:51; John 12:27; Acts 4:27-28)
- **The Apostle Paul.** "It pleased God to separate Paul from his mother's womb" He was appointed by the Sovereign Lord to be the one to take the Gospel to the Gentiles.. (Galatians 1:15-16; Acts 9:15)

CONSIDER DANIEL 4:35

- God has a purpose for EVERYTHING He has created. His counsel (plan, decree, purpose) shall stand! (Proverbs 19:21)
- God designed, formed, and is directing my life! (Psalm 139:13-16; 31:15; Jer 10:23; Prov 16:9; 20:24; James 4:13-16)

What Do I Do? (Deuteronomy 29:29)

- **DO** the **revealed** will of God for your life! (Deut. 29:29b; James 1:22)
- Your future is God's business – NOT YOURS. You do not even know if you will be alive tomorrow! (James 4:13-15)
- The conclusion: Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

Our Response

- Everyone today will have a response. What is yours? Awe or Hardness?
- What is your response to Deuteronomy 29:29?
- What is your response to James 1:22?
- What is your response to Matthew 7:21?
- What is your response to James 4:13-14
- What is your response to Ecclesiastes 12:13-14
- Do you know the God of the Bible?