

In the Beginning



27 June 2021

PART 6

Genesis 1:1

Job 12:7-25; Ephesians 3:8-21

In the Beginning (Genesis 1:1)

- Most important verse of the Bible. The first of every word! (Matt 4:4; Luke 4:4)
- GOD created. He created ALL SPACE, ALL MATTER, and ALL AGES.
- GOD owns everything. (Job 41:11; Deut 10:14; Psalm 89:11)
- Why did God create?
 - ① For Himself. (Proverbs 16:4; Rev 4:11; Col 1:16; Rom 11:36; Heb 2:10)
 - ② **For HIS glory.** (Psalm 106:7-8; Isaiah 48:8-18; Ezek 36:16-21; **Eph 1:5-6, 11-12, 14**; 2:5-7; **Isaiah 43:25**; 44:5; 49:3; John 17:10; 2 Thess 1:10-12; Philippians 1:11; 2:11)
 - ③ For the good of HIS people. (Genesis 50:20; James 1:3-4; 1 Peter 1:7-8; Revelation 3:19; **Isaiah 43:7, 21**)
 - ☆ **HIS people:** Those who love and obey God (1 John 5:3; John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 13-14; Hebrews 5:9;) who are CALLED according to HIS PURPOSE (plan, decree, counsel) Romans 8:28-30; 1 Peter 2:9; 2 Timothy 1:9.)

BEFORE the Beginning

- **Before the beginning** (Genesis 1:1) God existed. God **inhabits** eternity.
 - John 1:1; 17:5, 24; Isaiah 57:15.
- **Before the beginning** God existed in His aseity (self-sufficiency; self-containment; self-existence; independence; self-satisfaction)
 - Acts 17:24-25; Psalm 24:1; 50:10-12; 89:11; 1 Chron 29:10-20
- **Before the beginning** God planned, purposed, willed, decreed.
- GOD planned, purposed, willed, decreed in ETERNITY.
 - Psalm 33:11; Eph 1:11; 3:11; Isaiah 14:24-27; 44:7; Lam 3:37-38; Prov 19:21; Acts 2:23; 4:28; 15:18; Romans 8:28; 2 Timothy 1:9; 1 Peter 1:20; Rev 13:8; 17:8.

- God planned, purposed, willed, decreed EVERYTHING that would ever happen in HIS world.
 - Daniel 2:28; John 6:64; Matthew 20:18-19; Luke 22:10-13; 1 Peter 1:20; Proverbs 16:33; Jonah 1:7; Job 36:32; 1 Kings 13:1-2; 22:28; Job 5:6; Jeremiah 1:5; Mark 14:30; Genesis 37:28 with 45:5; 1 Sam 9:15-16; Gen 50:20; Acts 2:23; 4:28; Psalm 139:16; 147:4; Matthew 10:29-32.
- God's plan, purpose, will IS centered around the person of His Son, Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 3:11)
- God's plan, purpose, will is about God forming a people to be His special people for all eternity. (1 Peter 2:9; Titus 2:11-14; Isaiah 43:21)
 - **BEFORE time** God chose who would be His own. (Eph 1:4; 2 Thes 2:13)
 - **BEFORE time** God "wrote" His elect in His Book of Life. (Revelation 17:8; Luke 10:20)
 - **BEFORE time** God gave His "chosen ones" to His Son to live and die in their place. (John 6:37-40; 10:26-29; 17:2, 6, 8-9, 11, 24)
 - **BEFORE time** God, the Son, agreed to be God's elect SURETY (Hebrews 7:22) to pay the penalty of their sins and to provide God's righteousness for them.
 - **BEFORE time** God foreordained the CROSS. (1 Peter 1:19-20; Acts 2:23; 4:27-28; Psalm 40:7-8)
 - **BEFORE time** GOD predestined everything that happens in HIS WORLD (time, space, and matter) to FULFILL His ETERNAL PLAN (purpose, counsel, will). (Acts 15:18; 13:8; Isaiah 41:22-23; 44:7; 45:21; 46:9-11; Ephesians 3:8-12)
 - **BEFORE time** GOD planned, willed, purpose, decreed with such precision that even the number of hairs on each person's head and the life and death of a small bird were part of the plan. (Matthew 10:29-30)
 - **BEFORE time** GOD's plan, purpose, plan decree includes the rise and fall of kings, presidents, chancellors, nations, empires, and kingdoms. (Daniel 2; 4:17, 25, 32-35; **Job 12:23; Isaiah 37:26; 40:15, 17;** Rev 17:17; Proverbs 21:1)
 - **BEFORE time** GOD's plan, purpose, will, decree included EVERY DAY of our individual lives! (Psalm 139:16; James 4:13-16). Our days were written down in a book **BEFORE TIME BEGAN!**

When It Pleas'd God God Created

- To fulfill His **decree** (will, purpose, plan), GOD created (out of nothing) **TIME** (all history - Hebrews 1:2-3; 2:9-10; Colossians 1:17; Isaiah 41:4); **SPACE** and **ALL MATTER** (Isaiah 40:26; 44:24; 48:14; Psalm 102:25; 148:3-6; **33:6;** Jeremiah 10:11-12; Zechariah 12:1)
- EVERYTHING that happens (all history) is the unfolding of GOD's eternal plan!
- HISTORY (God's plan) is LINEAR. It unfolds in time. It had a BEGINNING and it has an END. It is moving toward JUDGMENT and ETERNITY! (2 Cor 5:8-10; Romans 2:5-11; Revelation 20:11-15; Hebrews 1:2-3)

- **NOTHING HAPPENS BY ACCIDENT! (Prov 16:33; Lam 3:37-38; Eph 1:11)**

At Creation

- He created the earth to be inhabited. (Isaiah 45:18)
- It would be to the inhabitants of the this world that He would reveal Himself as Creator, GOD, Lord, Most High, Supreme Being.
- He created man, Adam, to be the FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE of all who would follow him.
- Sin entered into the world by God's design. NOTHING happens without His command. (Lamentation 3:36-37; 1 Peter 1:20; Acts 4:27-28; Eph 1:11)
- God **promised** to send His Messiah to save His people from their sins. (Genesis 3:15; Matthew 1:21)

Some 4000 years later . . . "in the fullness of time" (Galatians 4:4)

- God **SENT** His Son (the Incarnation - God become flesh) to be the **propitiation** for our sins. (1 John 4:10; Rom 3:24-26; Luke 2:1-11; John 1:1-14; 1 Timothy 3:16)
- In obedience to God, the Father, and according to God's will, plan, purpose, decree Christ came, made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a slave, coming in the likeness of men, humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. (Philip 2:5-8; Acts 2:23; 4:27-28)
- Christ came to "do the work of Him who sent Him and to **finish** that work." (**John 4:34; 6:38-40**; Luke 19:10; 15:4; Matthew 1:21)
- God **SACRIFICED** (Isaiah 53:10) His Son and **OBTAINED** the **eternal redemption** for His people. (**Hebrews 9:12**)
 - ★ On the Cross, God, the Son, announced to the world, "**IT IS FINISHED!**" (John 19:30)
 - ★ All of this over 2000 years before we were thought of by our parents! (Romans 9:11-15)

ETERNAL PURPOSE ACCOMPLISHED!

(Ephesians 1:4, 9, 11; 3:11; Romans 8:28-30)

Some 2000 years later . . . according to His plan – Psalm 139:16; Eph 1:11.

- God, according to His purpose for me, **brought** me into His world. (Job 12:10; Acts 17:25, 28; Psalm 139:1-16)
- God formed me in my mother's womb! (Jeremiah 1:5; Psalm 139:13-15)
 - God **determined** my times and where I would live. (Acts 17:26; Psalm 139:16; James 4:13-16)
 - I was born with a heart of stone (Ezekiel 36:26), an enemy of God (Romans 5:10); a child of wrath (Ephesians 2:1-3); a child of the devil (1 John 3:10); with no righteousness (Romans 3:10; Isaiah 64:6); no understanding of the things of God (Romans 3:11; 1 Cor 2:14); I did not

seek God (Romans 3:11 in contrast to Luke 19:10; 15:4-7); enslaved to the world, Satan, and my own lusts and desires - I was DEAD in my trespasses and sin! (Eph 2:1-3)

Some time after my birth . . .

- **God called** me (Romans 8:30; 8:28; 9:23-24; 1 Cor 1:9; 1 Peter 2:9; 2 Peter 1:10; **2 Timothy 1:9**; Revelation 17:14).
- **God**, according to His will, not mine, **regenerated** me. (Ephesians 2:4; John 1:12-13; James 1:18; Romans 9:16, 18)
- **God** gave me a heart of flesh and His Holy Spirit. (Ezek. 36:26-27)
- **God** gave me His garment of salvation and His robe of righteousness. (Isaiah 61:10)
- **God drew** me to Christ. (John 6:44, 65; Psalm 65:4)
- **God** caused me to **believe** in Christ. (Acts 13:48; Philip 1:6; Eph. 2:8-9)
- **God freely justified** me - As Judge, He declared me righteous! (Romans **3:24**; 8:1, 30, 33) - **God** gave me His **righteousness**. (Rom 5:15-19)
- **God** gave me **repentance**. (Acts 5:31; 11:18; 2 Timothy 2:25)
- **God** is **conforming** me into the image of His Son through the process of **sanctification**. (Rom 8:29; Titus 2:14; Heb 6:3; 2 Cor 3:18)
- **God** will **finish** what **HE** begun with His election. (Philip. 1:6; Psalm 138:8)
- Jesus Christ, my LORD, **is interceding** for me at God's right hand to ensure that what God decreed, planned, purpose, willed for my life will proceed exactly as He planned! (Heb7:25; Rom 8:34; Psalms 40:15; 139:17)

At the moment of my death . . . (Job 14:5; 12:10; Psalm 116:15)

- IMMEDIATELY, I will be in the presence of My Lord. (Philip 1:23; Luke 23:43)
- God will present me to Himself blameless and holy in Christ. (1 Thess. 5:23-24; Ephesians 1:4; Jude 23-25)

OR

He's Coming Again – According to God's Timing (Acts 1:7)

- He promised to come and take me home! (John 14:1-3)
 - See 1 John 3:1-2!!
 - God **glorified** me! (Romans 8:30)
- (Matthew 24:36) It will be according to His will, plan, purpose, decree.
- Until then I will eagerly watch, obey (do His will), purify myself as He is pure and groan!. (Philip 3:20-21; 1 John 3:3; Luke 12:37, 40; Deut 29:29; Matthew 7:21-29; Romans 8:23-25)