

“ETERNAL PURPOSE”

(Eph. 3:11)

This Plan of Salvation was determined “*before the foundation of the world,*” Eph. 1:4. There obviously was a plan in place if man did **not** sin, he could, “*take also of the tree of life and live for ever,*” Gen. 3:22. In the Garden of Eden man sinned and thus needed to be redeemed; so, the **promise of redemption was put in place**, Gen. 3:15, the seed of the woman would bruise the head of the serpent. This then, is the beginning of God’s revelation to man, for his redemption.

When Jesus graced the face of the earth, he taught “*the Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father doing: for what things soever he doeth, these the Son also doeth in like manner,*” Jno. 5:19. In Jno. 16:13-14, Jesus taught us, “*13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he shall guide you into all the truth: for he shall not speak from himself; but what things soever he shall hear, these shall he speak: and he shall declare unto you the things that are to come. 14 He shall glorify me: for he shall take of mine, and shall declare it unto you.*” In Jno. 17:21, “*that they may all be one; even as thou, Father, are in me, and I in thee.*” **God, Christ** and the **Holy Spirit** had the plan to begin with, “*before the foundation of the world,*” and **God, Christ,** and the **Holy Spirit** were in agreement in what was being said and being done!

As this “**Eternal Purpose**” began to unfold there were those who knew not what God had planned: “*10 Concerning which salvation the prophets sought and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: 11 searching what time or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did point unto, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glories that should follow them. 12 To whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto you did they minister these things, which now have been announced unto you through them that preached the gospel unto you by the Holy Spirit sent for from heaven; which things angels desired to look into,*” I Pet. 1:10-12. As “*the manifold wisdom of God,*” was “*made known through the church,*” the Devil and all of his host were informed concerning “**the eternal purpose,**” of God, as it was made known to the Saints of the New Testament – through the apostles and inspired men, Eph. 3:10; Acts 2:42. **Prophets, Men, Angels,** the **Devil** and **his host** learned about this “eternal purpose” as it was revealed through the Church. All of this came through **God, Christ,** and “*being moved by the Holy Spirit.*” II Pet. 1:21.

Paul contends in Gal. 1:11, “*For I make known in you, brethren, as touching the gospel which was preached by me, that it is not after man.*” Paul is saying, “**This is a message from God!**” In I Cor. 1, 2 Paul contends the message is from God and the **very words** are inspired: “*10 But unto us God revealed them through the Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. 11 For who among men knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit off the man, which is in him? Even so the things of God none knoweth, save the Spirit of God. 12 But we received not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is from God that we might know the things that were freely given to us of God. 13 Which things also we speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Spirit teacheth; combining spiritual things with spiritual words,*” I Cor. 2:10-13. Again Paul has made the point, “**we received words from God.**”

Paul admonished us, “*9 As we have said before, so say I now again, If any man preacheth unto you any gospel other than that which ye received, let him be anathema. 10 For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God?*” Gal. 1:9-10. There are those who preach a “**pervverted,**” gospel and we are not to give heed to such, Gal. 1:6-7. **We are to remember the words of God!**

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