

God's Perfect Divine Plan



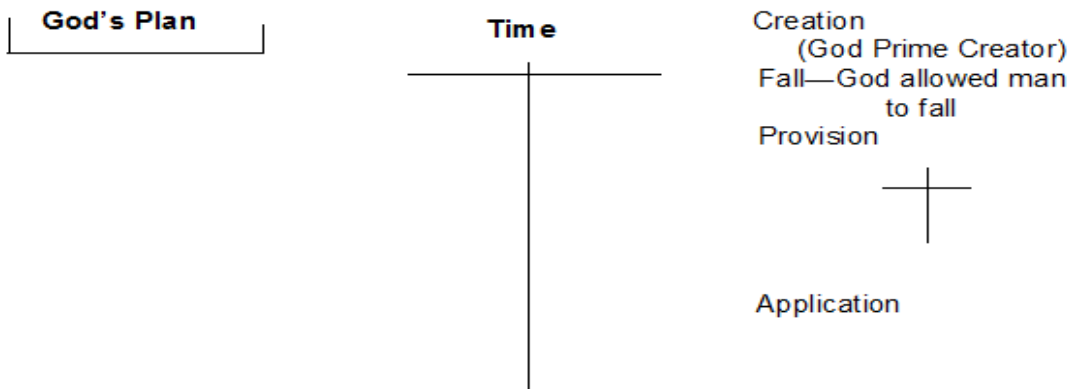
Lesson 7 (Continuation of Lesson 6)

The Pre-determined Plan of God

The following information is written in light of how I believe the Bible explains the pre-determined plan of God for mankind. I base this on the Word and not my feelings, intellect or lack of intellect...or what some other person has written. There are many areas of enlightenment for the believers to be understood only after long periods of study in God's Word and a spiritual impact made on our spiritual being (the Holy Spirit living within the believer). Only the Holy Spirit can reveal the truth.

Do I have all the answers? Of course not! I am subject to correction and change in my spiritual thinking as the Holy Spirit reveals truth to me. If I am wrong in my conclusions, it is only because I have let my personal thinking interfere with the Holy Spirit's concrete and pure truth of God's eternal plan.

Eternal State



Some Thoughts for Study:

Note: Ask God to help us seek the truth...not our own understanding

Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine (my/your) own understanding. In all thy (my/your) ways acknowledge (submit to) him, and he shall direct thy paths."

God had a predetermined and fore-ordained plan in which He will carry out with exact order and fulfillment of Scripture.

- The Book of Books (The Holy Scripture) gives a detailed description of this order and pre-ordained work of God. Acts 2:22-23 confirms this predetermined plan of the Triune God (the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God) [v. 23], KJV).
- God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit (the Triune Council) planned and willfully carried out and is continuing to carry out the plan that was determined "in advance of time."
- This plan is mentioned in Luke 22:22, "as it has been determined"; also, Acts 4:28, "...Thy purpose predestined to occur" and Acts 3:18, "...the things which God announced beforehand by the mouth of all the prophets..." clearly show that God, as the "all knowing (Omniscient)" God, has planned with purpose the fulfillment of every Scripture and has known it from "before time began."

*Omniscience = **Omniscience** means all-knowing. God is all-knowing in the sense that he is aware of the past, present, and future. Nothing takes him by surprise. His knowledge is total. He knows all that there is to know and all that can be known.*

God lives in eternity; therefore, He doesn't live in time as people do.

- Mysteriously (beyond man's understanding), God planned the time for man to accept or reject His plan for eternity.
- God knew/knows what choices men make. "Time" is eternal to Him...not a temporary timetable that has an end and beginning. For man, there was a beginning and an end, but not for God.

Predestination is the eternal decision of God, arising from love, by which he sets out a historical plan of Salvation giving every person the possibility to receive eternal Salvation.

- **God elects according to foreknowledge meaning that God does not choose at random but on the basis of the decision of man, which He foreknew.**

- **God in His love desires to predestine (elect and save) all people to be together with Him forever...but he doesn't force anybody to have a relationship with Him;**

1 Timothy 2:3-4, *"This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."* 2 Peter 3:9, *"The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance."*

- **God wants and desires everyone to be saved, but people choose against this (God knew it beforehand...it is beyond our finiteness).**

Example: Luke 7:30, *"But the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected God's purpose for themselves ..."* The Pharisees and the lawyers themselves decided not to take part in God's purpose. God desired them to come to repentance, but they were not willing.

Conclusion:

- God, who is not on a timetable, will fulfill His predetermined purpose of man's relationship with the Triune Godhead.
- God always has the interest of His chosen ones at heart and He will ultimately be worshipped in all His glory by all creation for all eternity.

NOTE: One of the most revealing parts of God's plan is found in man's willingness to humble himself before the Lord and let God have His way in his/her life. Anytime we (you and I) let the wisdom of man be the emphasis of our position on any subject, we have lost our willingness to let God have the last say in our decisions.

"He that hath an ear to hear, let him hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches."

Since you are part of the Church as a believer, this Scripture (repeated many times in the Word of God) is for you.

Instead of talking our way into the Kingdom, we must humble ourselves and listen to the still voice of God. That voice will burn into our spirit a hunger for truth.

What is truth? Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No man can come to the Father except through me" (John 14:6).

God's "permissive will" (God permits/allows to happen) includes those events or actions of men which are, in and of themselves, sinful.

- ***When men trust and obey Him, God employs their obedience to fulfill a portion of His plan.***

- *When men rebel and disobey Him, God sovereignly uses their sin to further His plan.*

In this way God causes all things to work together for good, to those who are the called according to His plan and purpose (see [Romans 8:28,AMP](#)).

Please Note:

- ✓ When you and I choose to follow God's "permissive will" (that which God only permits or allows) we are choosing to **DISOBEY GOD**, and that is sin! God's permissive will is opposite of God's preferred will.
- ✓ To knowingly disregard God's plan for our lives is **SIN**.
- ✓ Knowingly following God's "permissive will" for our lives is making a choice to **REBEL AGAINST** the one we call our **LORD**.
- ✓ Additionally, we have not only sinned against God in the decision we make, we have also defamed and blasphemed his name by providing an inaccurate portrayal of who He is while we bear His name, the name of "A follower of Christ"/Christian.
- ✓ And...We have testified to everyone around us that God is tolerant of sin creating a false witness of who He is and what he desires of our lives.

Under no circumstance is God tolerant of sin. He hates sin. Yet...God is a God of mercy...He accepts the repentant sinner.

To summarize today: God is Sovereign

Before we leave, I want to know how many of you believe that the meaning of God's sovereignty is that He controls everything and nothing can happen but what He wills or allows?

How many of you believe that tornadoes, calamities, starving children, and genocide are controlled by the Almighty God. He knows everything and can do anything at any time?

If you desire to truly follow God's specific plan for your life, the only way to find and follow His unique will for you is to live according to His PREFERRED will for all Believers. That implies regular times of prayer, Bible study, soaking in His Word, and Christian fellowship. These Biblically founded directives were designed to shape and renew your goals and desires, refresh your focus and priorities and clear away the uncertainties that we often face when trying to find God's will for our lives.

Find the Truth...and the Truth will set you free!