

This entire plan was a mystery, hidden in God, and kept hidden until Jesus had finished the work of redemption. It had to be kept secret so that the devil could not derail it. Even with what little he knew about it from the things God said directly to him in the Garden of Eden, and that was spoken through the prophets, the devil did his best to disrupt and stop the plan in its tracks. But to no avail! The Greater One won the battle!

We will continue this exciting study next week and show more about this wonderful plan of redemption unfolding as Jesus walked in this earth in complete domination over the devil. Then went to Calvary to buy back God's great possession, His man!

Scripture Meditation for this Week:

For in Christ Jesus your being comes from Him, not from the world, and He is your wisdom, your righteousness, your cleansing and your redemption coming to you from God alone.

1 Corinthians 1:30 "St. Paul from the Trenches", Gerald Warre Cornish

Jesus' suffering, His death on the cross, and then what happened in the three days and nights following, and the resurrection from the dead, is the meat of Paul's revelation. God revealed to him what happened between the cross and the Throne. It is the heart of New Testament theology and the key to faith and victory today. It is this very revelation which Satan did not want anyone to know about then, and he still fights it today.

We will look into this in some detail in this study. It is the key to knowing your proper place with God and the devil's proper place where you are concerned which is... **UNDER YOUR FEET!**

God bless you this week and remember that, Jesus is Lord!
Pastor Bill Dennington

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Good News... You're Redeemed! Part 2

When Adam fell to the temptation of the devil in the garden, the whole race of man was thrown off course from the will of God. All the beauty of this planet, the wealth which it contained and the abundant unimaginable prosperity which God had intended for man to enjoy was instantly corrupted. All of the things which were to be a blessing to man were now used by Satan to tempt and corrupt the race of man.

Sin opened the door to all the various forms of death as seen in the curse; sickness and disease, fear and terror, poverty and lack; all of which were manifestations of the power of Satan designed to kill, steal and destroy. Sin cut man off from being able to enjoy on-going fellowship with God and experiencing revelation about God from God. **Man's perception of God would now be clouded by a satanic fog of spiritual darkness; keeping man from knowing God in His true nature.**

Look at **Romans 1:18-32**. Read these verses to gain an understanding of the condition of man in his fallen state. Read the list of the works of the flesh listed in **Galatians 5:19-21**. This is the only thing by which unregenerate man can function. His spirit is dead, cut-off from the life of God which would give him the ability to overcome the power of the flesh.

As bad as all this was, God had a plan! Conceived in the heart of God, this plan would redeem man from the power of the devil and forever seal the fate of Satan and his demonic hordes.

The first indication of the plan of redemption is found in **Genesis 3:14-15**:

14. So the Lord God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; on your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life.
15. And I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."

In good plain talk of today, God told Satan, "I'm gonna bust your head!" God would accomplish this through the "seed of the woman", indicating this would be a supernatural offspring born of a woman, but not the seed of man. It would be a supernatural conception by the Word of God as the seed. God would be the Father of this child!

Man's union with the devil could only be corrected by God Himself. Man was incapable of bringing himself out of sin and death. He had been born again in reverse, from life to death. Only God had the ability to remove man out of the death-trap in which he was caught. Only God could introduce a way for man to be reborn from death to life and do it in a way that Satan could not stop it or legally challenge it.

God was responsible for man's deliverance; no one else could do it. God's own demands for justice would have to be satisfied by Himself. But He had to do it legally. He could not ignore the very laws which He had set into motion. Throughout the complete unfolding of this great plan of redemption God would maintain His own righteousness and integrity.

What would man's situation demand of God? Look at **Romans 5:12** from the Arthur S. Way translation: "The error of one individual man made the breach through which sin entered our world; and in the track of sin came death. So it was that death passed through that door to assail all men, since they all sinned."

That door could only be closed by another man dying the same death in obedience to God's demands for justice; and then by that obedience, giving God the right to bring that same man out of the realm of death by the resurrection; shutting the door of death for mankind, once and for all.

This would mean getting another man into this earth who was just like Adam was before the fall. Alive with the life of God, walking in the anointing of God and carrying the blood of God in his veins. It had to be God's blood because man's blood was contaminated with sin and death.

God promised a "Messiah": one who would be anointed. "Messiah" is the Hebrew word for "Anointed One". The only one who would qualify was God's own Son, The Christ, The Anointed of God.

This is the wonder and majesty of the Love of God. **John 3:16** says it so clearly: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes on Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Jesus came into this earth, born of a virgin, conceived by God's own Word. **John 1:14** says The Word became flesh and dwelt among us... One translation says "God took a body and lived in our midst..." God became a man and was born into this earth for one purpose, to die the death of Adam as a sacrifice for man. And to do it as an act of obedience to God as compared to the act of disobedience of Adam. There was no other way to get it accomplished.