

Notes on God's Plan for the Ages

07/26/2022

God's Purpose

Ephesians 1 (KJV):11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

The word "purpose" in Strong's is G4286, the Greek word **πρόθεσις** (pronounced *prothesis*), from G4388; a setting forth, i.e. (figuratively) proposal (intention); specially, the show-bread (in the Temple) as exposed before God:—purpose, shew(-bread).

This Greek word G4286, **πρόθεσις** (pronounced *prothesis*), is from G4388, **προτίθημι** (pronounced *protithēmi*), middle voice from G4253 and G5087; to place before, i.e. (for oneself) to exhibit; (to oneself) to propose (determine):—purpose, set forth.

This Greek word comes from G4253, the Greek word **πρό** (pronounced *pro*), a primary preposition; "fore", i.e. in front of, prior (figuratively, superior) to:—above, ago, before, or ever.

And from G5087, the Greek word **τίθημι** (pronounced *tithēmi*), a prolonged form of a primary θέω *thēō* *teh'-o* (which is used only as alternate in certain tenses); to place (in the widest application, literally and figuratively);

The KJV translates Strong's G4286, the Greek word **πρόθεσις** (pronounced *prothesis*) in the following manner: purpose (8x), showbread (with G740) (4x). G740 in Strong's is the Greek word **ἄρτος** (pronounced *artos*). This word means bread. So **πρόθεσις ἄρτος** would be translated as showbread, as in **Matthew 12 (KJV):4** How he entered into the house of God, and did eat the showbread, which was not lawful for him to eat, neither for them which were with him, but only for the priests?

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g4286/kjv/tr/0-1/>

This word "purpose" is also found in **2 Timothy 1 (KJV):9** Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, 10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

God had a purpose which He arranged "before the world began". In the Greek, the words "before the world began" are literally the following:

πρό (*pro*)
before

χρόνων (*chronon*)
space of times

αἰώνων (*ai-ōniōn*)
of ages

God had a plan from the beginning, before time began as we know it. This may be understood by the following Scriptures:

Acts 2 (KJV):23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

The word “determinate” in the Greek is **ὀρίζω** (pronounced *horidzō*), from G3725; to mark out or bound (“horizon”), i.e. (figuratively) to appoint, decree, specify:—declare, determine, limit, ordain. This Greek word is from G3725, **ὄριον** (pronounced *horion*), neuter of a derivative of an apparently primary ὄρος hóros (a bound or limit); a boundary-line, i.e. (by implication) a frontier (region):—border, coast.

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g3724/kjv/tr/0-1/>

Acts 4 (KJV):27 For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, 28 For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.

The word, “determined before”, are a translation of the Greek word **προορίζω** (pronounced *prooridzō*), which, as you can see, is a combined form of two Greek words, **πρὸ** (pro) and **ὀρίζω** (pronounced *horidzō*).

Acts 17 (KJV):26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; 27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:

The words “before appointed” are a translation of the Greek word, **προτάσσω** (pronounced *protassō*), from G4253 and G5021; to pre-arrange, i.e. prescribe:—before appoint.

This Greek word is derived from G4253, **πρό** (pronounced pro), a primary preposition; “fore”, i.e. in front of, prior (figuratively, superior) to:—above, ago, before, or ever.

And from G5021, **τάσσω** (pronounced *tassō*), a prolonged form of a primary verb (which latter appears only in certain tenses); to arrange in an orderly manner, i.e. assign or dispose (to a certain position or lot):—addict, appoint, determine, ordain, set.

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g4384/kjv/tr/0-1/>

Acts 15 (KJV):18 Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.

The words “from the beginning of the world” are a translation of the Greek words **ἀπ’ αἰῶνος** (pronounced ap ai-ownas), and means literally “from age”.

Lesson 4

Genesis 1 (KJV):1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. 2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

The words “without form, and void” in the Hebrew are **תהו ובהו** (pronounced tow-hoo va bow-hoo), read from right to left.

The Hebrew word תהו (pronounced tow-hoo) is from an unused root meaning to lie waste; a desolation (of surface), i.e. desert; figuratively, a worthless thing; adverbially, in vain:—confusion, empty place, without form, nothing, (thing of) nought, vain, vanity, waste, wilderness.

The Hebrew words ובהו (pronounced va bow-hoo), are two words, the “va” meaning “and”, and the “bow-hoo” is from an unused root (meaning to be empty); a vacuity, i.e. (superficially) an undistinguishable ruin:—emptiness, void.
https://www.blueletterbible.org/kjv/gen/1/1/t_conc_1002

Isaiah 45 (KJV):18 For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord; and there is none else.

The words “not in vain” in the Hebrew are לא-תהו (pronounced low tow-hoo).

The Hebrew word לא (pronounced low) means “not”. So the Lord did not create the earth the way it is pictured in Genesis 1:2.

The Hebrew words, תהו ובהו (pronounced tow-hoo va bow-hoo), read from right to left, are found together in one other Scripture.

Jeremiah 4 (KJV):23 I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light.

Lesson 5

On page 32, Dr. Grimes says, “The whole period of the flood, lasted for one year and ten days, and all life upon the earth was destroyed, as in Genesis 7:23, “And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark.””

And we read in **Genesis 7 (KJV):11** In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. 12 And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights. 13 In the selfsame day entered Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, into the ark; 14 They, and every beast after his kind, and all the cattle after their kind, and every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind, and every fowl after his kind, every bird of every sort.

So the beginning of the flood was “in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month”, as in verse 11.

And then we find the time when Noah exited the ark in **Genesis 8 (KJV):13** And it came

to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth: and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of the ground was dry. 14 And in the second month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, was the earth dried. 15 And God spake unto Noah, saying, 16 Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee. 17 Bring forth with thee every living thing that is with thee, of all flesh, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful, and multiply upon the earth. 18 And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him: 19 Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, and whatsoever creepeth upon the earth, after their kinds, went forth out of the ark.

So in verse 14, “in the second month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, was the earth dried”, and in verse 18, “Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him:”

So from “the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month” in Genesis 7:11, to “the six hundredth and first year” in Genesis 8:13, and “in the second month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month” in Genesis 8:14, the “earth dried”, and “Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him” would be one year and 10 days.

Lesson 6

Other Ages

Hebrews (NASB):26 Otherwise, He would have needed to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now once at the consummation of the ages He has been revealed to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

Revelation 1 (KJV):8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Revelation 22 (KJV):13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

Ephesians 2 (KJV):7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

Colossians 1 (KJV):26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

The Present Age

Galatians 1 (NASB):3 Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave Himself for our sins so that He might rescue us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, 5 to whom be the glory forevermore. Amen.

Titus 2 (NASB):11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people, 12 instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously, and in a godly manner in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, 14 who gave Himself for

us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, eager for good deeds.

The Dispensation of Human Government

Genesis 9 (KJV):1 And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth. 2 And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered. 3 Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things. 4 But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat. 5 And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man. 6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

After Noah and his sons and their wives came out of the ark, God instituted the dispensation of Human Government, and required capital punishment for those who shed “man’s blood”. William E. Wenstrom, Jr. says, “Human government was designed by God to protect the freedom of the individual, both believers and unbelievers as well. It was instituted by God and was designed for the protection of the freedom of individuals. Capital punishment was to be employed by nations as a protection for the freedom of its citizens and was designed by God as an instrument of justice. It was designed to be a deterrent in a nation.” Daniel_3_1_2.doc, William E. Wenstrom, Jr. Ministries, page 6-7.

Genesis 10 (KJV):1 Now these are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth: and unto them were sons born after the flood. 2 The sons of Japheth; Gomer, and Magog, and Madai, and Javan, and Tubal, and Meshech, and Tiras. 3 And the sons of Gomer; Ashkenaz, and Riphath, and Togarmah. 4 And the sons of Javan; Elishah, and Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim. 5 By these were the isles of the Gentiles divided in their lands; every one after his tongue, after their families, in their nations.

Genesis 10 (KJV):20 These are the sons of Ham, after their families, after their tongues, in their countries, and in their nations.

Genesis 10 (KJV):32 These are the families of the sons of Noah, after their generations, in their nations: and by these were the nations divided in the earth after the flood.

Acts 17 (KJV):26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; 27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: 28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

The Dispensation of Grace

The purpose of the law was to bring us to Christ, as we read in **Galatians 3 (KJV):24** Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.