**Sermon Notes**

**August 15, 2021**

**Understanding God’s Plan For Time & Eternity**

**Ephesians 1:9-12 –**

**Theme: “For Me To Live Is Christ”**

Question: Who is the one within the many?

**1.Eternity (Psalm 145:13; Acts 2:22-24;** **I Pet. 1:19-20).**

**2. Time**

**1)The creation of the world and mankind** (Gen. 1&2 – by the eternal Christ – God’s Son (Col. 1:16**)**

**2) The Line of The Savior.**

Matt. 1:1-17 – Legal line (not natural father) through Joseph; Luke 3:23-38 – Line through Jesus’ mother, Mary.

**Adam**; **Seth; Noah; Shem; Terah**; **Abraham**;  **Isaac**; **Jacob** (Israel – from him came the 12 tribes of Israel – the nation of Israel; **Judah**; **Jesse**; **David, Solomon . . . . Jacob, Joseph.**

 Matthew 1:16 – “Jacob was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, by whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.” The “by whom” is feminine singular indicating clearly that Jesus was born of Mary only and not of Mary and Joseph. This stresses without a doubt the virgin birth of Jesus.

**(3) The Prophecy of the Savior**

\*\*The Seed of the Woman – Gen. 3:15; Gal. 4:4; Matt. 1:20

\*\*Born of a virgin – Isa 7:14; Matt. 1:18, 24, 25

\*\*Abrahamic Covenant -Gen. 12:1-3; Gal. 3:7-9, 16 – land, seed, and blessing for Israel, and eventually to the whole world through Christ.

\*\*The I AM – Ex. 3:14; John 8:58

\*\*Melchizedek - Priest -Ps. 110; Heb. 8

\*\*Passover, Tabernacle, Priesthood, Sacrifices, Feasts; fulfilled in Christ (Ex. 12-Lev; I Cor. 5:7; Heb. 9-10)

\*\*Prophet – Deut. 18:15-19; Acts 3:22

\*\*David Covenant – II Samuel 7:8-17; Luke 1:30-33 (Davidic Covenant which Christ would fulfill). Jesus would be a king.

\*\*Place of birth -Micah 5:2; Matt. 2

There are 29 prophecies from the Old Testament, which tell of the betrayal, trial, death and burial of our Lord Jesus Christ, were spoken at different times during 1000-500 BC. (over 500 centuries), but all of them were fulfilled in Jesus in one 24 hour period. Below are some of those prophecies.

**(1)** Sold for 30 pieces of silver - Zechariah 11:12 - Matthew 26:15; (**2)** Dumb before accusers - Isaiah 53:7 - Matthew 27:12**; (3)** Wounded and bruised - Isaiah 53:5; Zechariah 13:6; Matthew 27:26; **(4**) Smitten and spit upon - Isaiah 50:6 - Matthew 26:57; Luke 22:63**; (5)** Mocked - Psalm 22:7-8 - Matthew 27:31; **(6)** Hands and feet pierced - Psalm 22:16; Zechariah 12:10 - Luke 23:33; John 20;25 - Jesus was crucified in the usual Roman manner; the hands and feet were pierced by large dull spikes which attached the body to the wooden cross or stake**; (7)** Bones not broken - Psalm 34:29 - John 19:33. Also see Psalms 22:14 & 17 which must have been fulfilled at this time as well; (**8)** Made intercession for His persecutors - Isaiah 53:12 - Luke 23:34 - This office began on the cross (Luke 23:34, and now continues in heaven (Heb. 9:24; I John 2:1). **(9)** Garments parted and lots cast - Psalm 22:18 - John 19:23-24**;( 10)** To suffer thirst - Psalm 69:21; 22:15 - John 19:28. Christ in Luke 24:44 showed His disciples how He is the theme of the OT.

Stoner in “Science Speaks” took eight prophecies in the Old Testament that refer to Jesus Christ and are fulfilled in Him in the New Testament. Stoner discovered that the chance of one man to have lived down to the present and fulfilled all eight prophecies is 1 in 10 to the 17th power. That would be 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000 (17 zeros). Stoner also considered 48 prophecies of Christ in the Old Testament and fulfilled in Him in the New Testament. The chance of that happening is 1 in 10 to the 157th power. Obviously, the Bible is trustworthy, accurate, and reliable.

**(4) The Savior has come (Luke 2; Matt. 2) – Incarnation**

**\*\* His person**

Matthew – He is the victorious King (Matt. 2:2; 27:11,37); Mark – He is the humble servant (Mark 10:45); Luke – He is the caring Son of Man (Luke 19:10); John – He is the eternal Son of God (John 10:36).

**\*\*His work**

John 1:14-18 – God in flesh to show us who the Heavenly Father is; Matthew 20:28 – gives his life a ransom for many;

John 3:16 – believe in Him for eternal life; Luke 22:19-20 – though His death, burial, and bodily resurrection establishes the New Covenant –Gave His body as our substitute and shed His blood to pay the penalty for our breaking God’s law, providing the believer His forgiveness of one’s sin; Luke 24:44*;* Matthew 28:19-20 – Gave great commission to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the mane of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And Lo I am with you always to the end of the age; Acts 1 – told the disciples that He wouldn’t restore the kingdom to Israel at this time, which meant that the nation of Israel still had a future, but the Holy Spirit’s power would come on them and they would be His witnesses, to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the end of the earth. Then Jesus ascended bodily into heaven with the promise given that He would return.

**(5) A new era and community began (Acts 2 through the entire book of Acts on into the present).**

The church came into being at Pentecost as the Holy Spirit came upon those present. Jewish people came to know Christ as Savior and Lord. Then in Acts 10 the gospel was taken to the Gentile believers – the house of Cornelius – now it was obvious that God was including both Jew and Gentile in one body called the church (Ephesians 2). nThe New Testament letters and books record the development of the church through different cities in the ministry of the apostle Paul, as he established different churches ,and through the other writers as well.

**(6) Satan’s activity**

\*\*The highest of angels (Ez. 28:13-15). A created a perfect cherub.

\*\*Attempted to take over God – wanted His position – cast out of heaven (Isaiah 14:13-15; Ez. 28:15-19).

\*\*Came and tempted Adam and Eve – who yielded to his temptation – now there was the battle that would rage through time between the seed of the woman, the line of the Savior, and the seed of Satan.

\*\*Abel was killed. The corruption in the time of Noah – God saved the line of the Savior through Noah and his family in the ark - Abraham was to be part of the line of the Savior – Hagar & then Ishmael was born- interruption by Satan – Isaac was born – eventually Jacob was born – and his twelve sons became the 12 tribes of Israel. Nation was divided into Israel and Judah – both went into captivity. Eventually a return. Then there is the account of Esther, who was used to save the line of the Savior. At the time of Jesus birth – Satan tried to snuff out the line of the Savior – through Herod – then Satan tried to tempt Christ to follow Him – Peter tried to get Christ off base –Before Christ’s crucifixion in the Garden – Satan tried to get Christ to not go to the cross – Christ prayed 3 times and submitted to His Father doing His will to win redemption for all – and defeated the evil one as well, establishing a new kingdom – for all believers – so they could have victory over the evil one as they live for the Savior Satan is still active today, although in one sense a defeated foe, promoting his wares (Eph. 6:12), will do so until his final judgment (Rev. 20:7-10).

**(7) Operation footstool – I Cor. 15:23-28**

22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. 23 But each in his own order: **Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ’s at His coming, 24 then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. 25 For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.** 26 The last enemy that will be abolished is death. 27 For He has put all things in subjection under His feet. But when He says, “All things are put in subjection,” it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. 28 When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all.

These words will seemingly be fulfilled after Christ’s return, as I interpret the Scripture, at the end of the 1000 year reign of Christ in Revelation 20, where Christ comes to earth after the great tribulation and establishes His 1000 year reign where Satan is finally defeated, the great white throne judgment seat happens for all unbelievers. Then Satan, along with the beast (the antichrist) and his lieutenant are cast into the lake of fire along with those whose names are not found in the Lambs book of life. This means that Christ has put all enemies under His feet and the last enemy death has been abolished. At that time, Christ will hand back the kingdom He has won through His death, burial, and bodily resurrection, to His heavenly Father. A new heaven and earth will be created in which all believers of all ages will live with Jesus Christ forever.

**3. The eternal state (Rev.21-22)**

The lamp is the Lamb (21:23); The throne of the Lamb (22:1); His bond servants will serve Him, and reign with Him forever and ever (22:3,6)

**4. Application to our lives**.

**\*\*Theologically**

--The Sovereign eternal God made known His plan over a period of time (progressive revelation).

--Christ, the Redeemer, is at the center of that plan – everything is summarized, brought together in Him (Eph. 1:10).

--What the first Adam lost, the second Adam (Christ) regained (I Cor. 15:22).

--Time moves to the ultimate end in the millennium (restoration of the creation, culminating at the Great White Throne Judgment.

--Christ is the final victor over sin, death, the old nature, and the evil one (I Cor. 15:23-28).

--Christ will be known as the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world for all eternity (Rev. 21:5; 22:1,3).

--The unifying principle of God working in time and for eternity is His glory (Eph. 1:6,12,14 ) “to the praise of the glory of His grace.”

**\*\*Personally**

We can be part of God’s awesome plan for time and eternity; Need to know the Savior personally (Rom. 10:9-13). Have a personal eternal inheritance (Eph. 1:11); Each of us is part of His plan (chosen by Him – John 15:16), and is eternally significant in His kingdom – we are victors in Christ (II Cor. 2:14); Each of us has eternal purpose in living for Christ here (I Cor. 10:31); -Each of us has an eternal hope (Rom. 5:1-5; Titus 2:11-14); Christ makes the eternal difference in our lives (Col. 3:23-24); We will worship and serve the Lord Jesus for all eternity (Rev. 5:12;22:3); It’s all because of His grace!! (Eph. 1:6,12,14). Christ is the Theme of the Bible & the Center of God’s plan for time and eternity. He is truly the One within the many!! Praise the Lord!! “For Me To Live is Christ.”

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