The Eternal Review

Volume 1 09/29/2013 Issue 1

“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**Before the Beginning**

We are all human beings with no concept of “eternity”. Only God understands eternity, for He is eternal. Where did God come from? The Bible tells us that they always existed. When the Lord talked to Moses in the burning bush, he told Moses to say, *“I AM has sent me”*. (Ex. 3:14) God is “I AM”. That is His name. That is His nature.

Before there was “time”

There was GOD.

He is an infinite power that has always been.

There is no other like Him. He existed before

the world began. Paul says in Eph. 1:4, *“He*

*chose us… before the foundation of the world”.* Before the world was created, the God Head Three existed, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. They all were God. They are all knowing and everywhere. They were all of **one mind**.

God is love (John 4:8) and love is of God. (John 4:6) This is important to remember. God is perfect love. God is just. God is Holy. God is righteous.

Where do they live? They reigned in heaven. John saw God on His throne in heaven. (Rev. 4:2) Jesus left heaven. (Phil. 2:6-8) When Jesus returned to heaven, He sent the Holy Spirit as a “comforter”. (John 15:26) They lived in time and space that has no boundaries. They have been at all times in all spaces. That is hard for us to understand.

Before everything began, God had a “plan”. Just what is this “plan”? This paper is interested in presenting “the truth and nothing but the whole truth” about the “Plan of God”. Please look for by-weekly stories. We want to “diligently seek” God. (Heb. 11:6). We want to understand “His divine power” (2 Peter 1:3) and “His divine nature”. (2 Peter 1:4)

**Bullet Points**

* Who is God?
* When did He exist?
* Who is the God Head Three?
* Where do they live?
* What does it mean that God is “Love”.

**Vocabulary words**

* Eternity
* Heaven
* Comforter
* Freewill
* Sinned

The Eternal Review

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“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**In the Beginning**

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth…” (Gen.1:1) Every one of you knows this verse and story by heart. In six days God created a world, perfect in every way. God looked at almost every step of His creation and said, “It was good”. (Gen 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21 and 25)

So God before the beginning devised a “plan”. He would create a world for man. He would create man to have a relationship with Him. And man would tend the world. God desired that we would be His adopted sons and daughters and would conform to the nature of His first born Son, Jesus.

Remember, God is love (John 4:8) and love is of God. (John 4:6).It was only fitting that God wanted a people of His own to love. It would be for His own good pleasure. (Phil 2:13) God loves us first. (Rom. 5:8) He desired that out of our own freewill we would love Him in return.

On the sixth day, God said,

“*Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.****27****So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*  (Gen. 1:26 and 27)

Man was different from all the other creatures created by God. They had an eternal soul. They had the ability to make choices. God desired a permanent relationship with man. But it depended on whether man would have to desire that relationship with God.

God made man from the dust of the ground, first. God created the garden of Eden for man to tend and keep. He commanded the man, saying, “Of every of the garden you may freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in that day you shall surely die.” (Gen. 2:16 and 17) From the beginning, man had a choice.

Afterwards, God said it was not good for man to be alone. So He cause man to fall asleep and God took a rib from man’s side and created women. She would be a helper suitable for man. So it was done. God brought the woman to the man. And Adam said, “*This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.*”(Gen 2: 23) God was the creator, man was the servant of God and woman was the helper suitable for man. Therefore a man should leave his mother and father and cleave to his wife and they should be as one faith. They were both naked and were not ashamed.

It was so from the beginning. Man walked with God in the garden. It must have been wonderful. It was God and man in harmony. But remember man had a choice to make, what would that choice be?

**Bullet Points**

* Who created the heavens and the earth from the beginning?
* What did God say about His creation?
* Why did God create man?
* Was man doing ok by himself?
* Can you tell the line of authority? 1 Cor. 11:3

**Vocabulary words**

* Created
* Relationship
* Die
* Authority
* Leave
* Cleave
* Choice

The Eternal Review

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“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**Paradise Lost**

What a beautiful home! The Garden of Eden was a true picture of heaven on earth;

* walking with God in the cool of the evening
* talking with God face to face
* dwelling with the beast of the field
* food a plenty
* a husband created by God
* a wife created suitable for man

It was true peace and serenity with God. Who could ask for anything more? It was all created for man.

However, love and obedience must exist together. John 14:15 says “*that if you love Him, you will keep His commandments*”. He continues in vs. 21, ***“****He who has my commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”* From the beginning, God called us to show our love for Him in obedience.

If man had loved God and obeyed His commandments how would this have continued? We do not know, for God gave man freewill. If man was obedience to God, life in the garden could have continued. If man was not to obey, it would be sin. Sin would cause death, and death was a separation from God. But God had made provisions for this, from the beginning. This was part of the plan. God’s purpose for man was for Him to “bring them to glory”. (Heb. 2:10).



God had only one law that we know of. The tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall *not eat*.

And God promised for in that day you shall surely die. Dying is separation from life. Spiritual death is being eternally separated from God. Law and punishment were established. All that God asked was loving obedience. From that point on, law would require obedience. Disobedience was sin, a transgression of law. Sin would require punishment.

So the serpent was craftier than any beast of the field. He approached woman. In Gen. 3:1-6, the serpent said to the woman,

“*Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden’?”****2****And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden;****3****but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.’”****4****Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.****5****For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”* ***6****So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.*”

Rom.3:23, says, “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”.

Woman and man had sinned.

Innocence was gone from the garden.

What was man to do?

**REDEMPTION**: the action of regaining something in exchange for payment, or clearing a debt.

How could man return to a pure relationship with

God? All men would require redemption.

What is that and how would that happen?

Man would owe God a debt that he never could pay. This was the reason for God’s plan.

God punished the man and the woman for their sin. They were tossed from the garden and their life would never be the same. They would be separated from God and the garden. But in Gen. 3:14 and15, God make a promise 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.”*

This was a mystery. But this too was part of the “plan”. Angels and prophets desired to know the meaning. God made a promise. Someone, who would be very special, would come and destroy the serpent. They would be sinless to be the sacrifice for man’s redemption. We will continue to search out this plan and this One who would come.

Meanwhile, where is the world headed? Adam calls his wife Eve. The children of Adam and Eve sin. It doesn’t look go

**Bullet Points**

* Describe how it was at home in the garden.
* How do we show we love God?
* What is physical death?
* What is spiritual death?
* What is sin?

**Vocabulary words**

* Peace
* Serenity
* Obedience
* Separation
* Consequences
* Cleave
* Choice
* Redemption

The Eternal Review

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“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**Man Just Kept On Falling**

Man and woman no longer lived in the garden. Man must work hard. Woman bares children in pain and agony. Eve bares two sons to Adam, Cain and Abel. Being a child of God requires obedience. Whatever the law, when Cain and Abel offered sacrifices to God, Abel’s offering was pleasing to God and Cain’s was rejected. Out of jealousy and rage Cain kills his brother. This is not good. Man cannot approach God with sins in their lives. What will happen?

Man gets further and further away from God. God looks down on the earth.

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In Gen. 6, God sees that the world is wicked and evil.

Yet one man found favor with God, Noah.

Remember God had a plan before the foundation of the earth.

We see another revelation of this plan. God would destroy the world and the evil of man. Yet, Noah would be called to a test of faith. He would have to prove his love and trust of God. If Noah was obedient to God’s plan; Noah and his wife, their three sons and their wives would be spared. They would be **redeemed**. (There’s that word again) They would be saved through the “grace” of God. (Grace is getting something you did not earn or deserve)

Why did this man Noah find grace in the eyes of the Lord?

1. He alone served God-in a wicked world.
2. He believed God-showed great faith.
3. When God gave him orders-he obeyed by doing exactly what God said.
4. Noah loved God-loving God is keeping God’s commandments.

You know the story. Noah built an ark-just like God commanded. He preached the

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warning of the judgment of God

that was coming. When it was

time, he and his family and the

animals by pairs entered the ark

for safety and salvation.

Then God sent a flood unlike was

ever seen and never seen again. The waters killed all who would not obey Him. God save a few-a remnant. That too was part of the “plan”. God made a promise-a covenant- with Noah not to ever destroy the world with water again.

Noah was a righteous man, but he was not the redeemer. He was saved by water, but later he sinned. Noah and his family being saved by water was only a clue to what was to come. Remember God has a plan; this too is part of the “plan”.

**Bullet Points**

* Describe how it was at home outside the garden.
* After man left the garden did they continue to sin?
* What did God see when He looked down on the earth?
* What was God’s plan for the wicked?
* What was God’s plan for a few?
* What part did Noah have in his salvation?
* Noah and his family were saved by what?
* Why was Noah not the redeemer?

**Vocabulary words**

* Sacrifices
* Favor
* Grace
* Ark
* Flood
* Remnant
* Covenant
* Redemption

The Eternal Review

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“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**New Beginnings**

Noah and his family survived the flood. God made a covenant with Noah and man to never destroy the earth and every living thing again by water. God said: 

As a sign of this covenant, I am setting my rainbow in the clouds to serve as a reminder of the pact between me and the earth. From now on, when I put a cloud in the sky the rainbow will be visible in the cloud.

After the flood, Noah sinned. He had three sons Shem, Ham and Japheth. Shem was the oldest and show respect for his father. His people would be blessed and the “redeemer” would come through his bloodline. The youngest of the brothers, Japheth showed respect to his father. His people would one day find a path to the redeemer. This was all part of the “plan”. Due to the sin of Ham, not showing respect for his father, he was cursed. He would be the father of the Canaanites and they would be slaves to the people of Shem. In general they would never serve God.

Noah lived 350 years after the flood. Noah was the last man to live over 900 years. The life-span of men rapidly decreased. Soon 200 or fewer years was a long life.

In chapter 10 of Genesis, we are told where the three brothers set up their families. Not many generations past before man devised a new plan. They gathered together to build a tower that would reach to heaven. The people were of one language and one mind. God saw what they were doing. He said, “There is no telling what these people could accomplish”. So God confused their language. The people scattered beyond the realm of the three brothers’ borders. They were divided by tongues and distances.

This too was part of the “plan”. One day God would use these scattered nations and call out from among them a nation of his own. Remember these “plan” devised before the foundation of the world. The plan was to return man to God. How was this going to take place? We will keep investigating.

Many, many peoples came through Shem, but the divine record narrows the story still more.

**Bullet Points**

* Gen. 9:18-29, how did Noah sin?
* How did Shem and Japheth show respect for their father?
* How did Ham not show respect for their father?
* Where did the three brothers go to live?
* What did the people attempt do?
* What caused the people to scatter?

**Vocabulary words**

* Sign
* Favor

The Eternal Review

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“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**One Man Called Out**

Nine generations passed from Noah to a man named Terah. He lived in Ur of the Chaldees. Terah too had three sons: Nabor, Abram and Haran. But the main character we will follow is Abram (or Abraham as he is later called)

Remember God has a “plan”. Gen.**12**Now the Lord had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you.**2**I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. **3**I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

But Abraham would never possess this land. It would be in generations to come after they were held in bondage for 400 years. In Acts 7 Stephen tells the Jews in remembrance:

**5**And *God* gave him no inheritance in it, not even *enough* to set his foot on. But even when *Abraham* had no child, He promised to give it to him for a possession and to his descendants after him. **6**But God spoke in this way: that his descendants would dwell in a foreign land, and that they would bring them into bondage and oppress *them* four hundred years. **7**‘And the nation to whom they will be in bondage I will judge,’ said God, ‘and after that they shall come out and serve Me in this place.

So Abram, knowing God, believed God and obeyed God. He got up and left his home. God led him to Canaan, took him on top of a mountain and told Abram that this would be the land he would give to the nation, the large nation that will come from your loins. And through that nation will come the One who will bless every nation under heaven. The three promises to Abram were:

1. A great nation
2. A land of their own
3. All nations would be blessed through this nation

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A key point: Abram knew God, believed God and obeyed God.

Through the rest of the bible story we will follow Abram’s family. Notice that God had unfolded only a small part of his “plan”. Remember Gen. 3:15 about the One who would come to triumph over Satan. Now we have the three fold promise to Abraham (Gen. 12:1-7).

In Abraham’s travels, he meets a very different man, Melchizedek. He was priest of God and King of Salem. It will be important to remember this man.

Abraham was a good and faithful man. But Abraham’s wife was barren so she and Abraham tried to help God fulfill His promise by having a son, Ishmael, by Hagar, the handmaiden. But this was not the son of promise. When Sarah was old, finally, through a miracle, Isaac was born. God made a covenant with Abraham of circumcision. This was a sign of the special relationship that God had with these, His people. So all the males in Abraham household bore this sign. So on the eighth day, Isaac was circumcised. Abraham was 100 years.

Abraham had others son after Sarah died. Hagar’s son, Ishmael, and the other sons had families of their own and some grew to large nations. But Isaac was the one through whom the blessings would come.

Abraham proved his faith in God when God asked him to sacrifice his only son of promise, Isaac. And his faithfulness was accounted to him for righteousness. He was a mediator with God on behalf of his nephew Lot. Yet Abraham was not the **redeemer.** But God used Abraham as part of His “plan”.

**Bullet Points**

* Who was Abram’s father and where were they from?
* What did God ask Abram to do?
* What did God promise Abram?
* What promise comes from Gen. 3:15?
* What are the key reasons why Abraham was chosen?
* Who was Abraham’s wife?
* Who was Abraham’s promised son?
* Why did God ask Abraham to sacrifice his only son?
* What was the sign given to Abraham to show his family was the people of God?

**Vocabulary words**

* Righteousness
* Accounted
* Mediator
* Circumcision
* Bondage

The Eternal Review

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“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**The Birth of a Nation**

Abraham proved his obedience to God. He took his son of promise, Isaac, up on a mountain to sacrifice him as God had commanded. Just as he raised the knife to slay him, God stayed his hand. There in the bushes was a “lamb” from God for the sacrifice.

Isaac grew to become head of a family. God repeated the three-fold promise to Isaac. Gen. 26:2-4



1. A great nation
2. A land of their own
3. All nations would be blessed through this nation

Through Isaac’s seed all nations would be blessed.

Isaac had two sons, twins, Esau and Jacob. Before their birth, God said that Jacob would be the greater. Do you remember the story of a bowl of porridge? Both brothers would be head of great nations. Esau’s descendants became the nation of the Edomites. But it was to Jacob that the three-fold promise was repeated. Gen. 28:13-14

Jacob was blessed by God. He had 12 sons and a daughter. His favorite was Joseph, the next to the youngest. He showed him partiality. The other brother became jealous and sold Joseph as a slave into Egypt. There he served as a slave to Potiphar. He was lied about and was cast into prison. Time passed, and he interpreted the Pharaoh’s dreams. Joseph was made ruler of all Egypt, second only to Pharaoh. Do not forget that God has a “plan”. So many twists and turns, but God used Joseph to save his people from a famine that would come to that area of the world. (Gen. 45:4-8)

The story of Joseph and how he reunited with his family, including his father Jacob, and had them all brought to Egypt at the end of Genesis is known by you. The hand of God was at work for His purpose. There were a total of 75 in the family at that point-still far short of a NATION.

As Jacob lay on his death bed, he called them all together and blessed them. These sons would form tribes which would make up the nation of Israel. It was Judah, the fourth son, that he gave a special prophecy: the scepter would not depart from the tribe of Judah and the One who was coming would come through Judah. (Gen. 49:10) Is this the One promised in Gen. 3 and to the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob?

Pharaoh showed favoritism to Joseph’s family. They were sent to the land of Goshen. There they were separate from the people of Egypt. The 400 years of bondage begins here. God had a “plan” to form a special nation and a special people for His own purpose.

**Bullet Points**

* What did God ask Abraham to do?
* How hard do you think that would be?
* What did God promise Isaac?
* Of Isaac’s sons, who would receive the promise?
* How did Israel get to Egypt?
* How many came?
* Who received the special blessing?
* How long did God say Israel would be in bondage?

**Vocabulary words**

* Porridge
* Partiality
* Jealous
* Famine
* Interpreted
* Prophecy
* Bondage
* Patriarchs

The Eternal Review

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“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**What Do We Know Now?**

Genesis closes. Joseph assures his family that a day would come when God would lead His people back to Canaan. Now God has unfolded this much of His plan:

1. One will come to triumph over Satan.
2. He will bless all the families of the earth.
3. He will come through the seed of Abraham, through Isaac, through Jacob and through Judah.
4. He will reign.

We certainly know more than when Adam sinned, but we still understand very little about God’s full purpose. Let us press on to discover more of the whole mystery.

As the book of Exodus opens, many years have passed, about 400. The scene in Egypt looks dark. The Pharaohs who knew Joseph have since passed. There perhaps three million people of the group called by Jacob’s name, Israel. The existing Pharaoh was afraid of the sheer number of the Israelites. He afflicted the people by making them his slaves. But the Israelites multiplied faster. He tried to destroy the potential soldiers that were being born to this nation.

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Key Point: Remember the promise made to make a nation

of Abraham’s family? Here it is.

He ordered that all male children be killed. But due to God’s providence, one baby boy was spared. The story of Moses is known by children through the ages.

The burdens of the Israelites were increased by the Egyptians. The Israelites suffered and prayed, suffered and prayed. God heard their prayers.



Remember God had a “plan”. He told Abraham that his family (this nation) would be in bondage in Egypt for 400 years. God never intended that they stay in Egypt. Canaan was their promised land.

God was now prepared to send them a deliverer. Who would be the deliverer? He would be the child that was spared by the Lord. He was raised as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter for 40 years. His own mother was hired to care for him. His name was Moses. He knew from childhood the plight of his people. At 40 years old he rescued one of his own people. Due to circumstance he had to flee Egypt to Midian. The next forty years he worked as a shepherd in Midian. One day, God called to Moses from a burning bush and gave him his commission to go back to Egypt to rescue the Israelites.

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**Bullet Points**

* At this point, what do we know about God’s plan?
* Where are the people of God living?
* We have closed the book of Genesis, what book is next?
* How many years have gone by?
* Has God forgotten His people and His promise?
* How many Israelites are now in Egypt?
* Is this the nation God had promised?
* Do you remember the story of Moses?
* Who found Moses?
* Who helped raise Moses?
* How long did Moses live in Egypt?
* How long did Moses live in Midian?
* Why did Moses leave Midian?
* How long did God say Israel would be in bondage?

**Vocabulary words**

* Mystery
* Genesis
* Exodus
* Israelite
* Slaves
* Deliverer

The Eternal Review

Volume 1 10/27/2013 Issue 9

“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**OUT of AFRICA**

The children of Israel have lived in Goshen for over 400 years. They have grown into a large nation. God is now ready to take His children back home.

He calls on Moses to go back to Egypt and bring the children of Israel out of bondage. He tells Moses to tell the children that “I AM” has sent me. In our story, we do not have time to tell all that happened. But as you remember, Pharaoh would not let the people go.

Nine plagues

Water to Blood

Frogs

Lice

Flies

Murrain of Cattle

Boils

Hail

Locusts

Darkness

God causes nine horrible

plagues to come upon the

nation of Egypt. You remember

how many of the plagues had

no effect on the children of

God, the Israelites. Each time

Moses would go to Pharaoh

and the him to let God’s people

go, but he refused to let them go.

Finally there was the tenth plague. It was the most horrible. God would require obedience and faith from his people. This test of faith would be life or death.

It was the 10th day of the first month. The Israelites were to take a one year old lamb or goat and put it away until the 14th day. It was to be spotless without blemishes. On the 14th day, the animal was to be sacrificed. The blood of the animal was to be put on the two side-post and the lintel (the top post). Then they were to roast the animal and have a feast. That night death would come to the first born son of every household that did not have the blood around the door, Israelites and Egyptians alike. This event would be remembered yearly by a Passover feast. This would require faith and obedience.

That night around midnight the Lord struck every first born in Egypt. A cry came up from Egypt. After this Pharaoh agreed to let the people God go. They gathered their things and everyone let that moment.

Moses leads the people out of Egypt, But God is their guide.

A CLOUD BY DAY A CLOUD OF FIRE BY NIGHT



God leads them to the Red Sea. Pharaoh had second thoughts about letting these people go and followed. There was no place to go to escape Pharaoh. Moses called the people to stand still and see the salvation of the Lord. God told Moses to lift his hands and the sea opened and the children crossed on dry land. The children are surrounded by water. (Saved by water, where have we heard that before? Noah and his family were saved by water.)

When the soldiers of the Pharaoh followed, the water closed around them and they were all killed. God was Israel’s “True Deliverer”.

### As they travel God tells Moses to tell the people, Exodus 19:5-6 5Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine. 6And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These *are* the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.”

### Bullet Points

* What was the name of God that Moses was to tell the people, who had sent him?
* What did “I Am”?
* What was Moses to tell Pharaoh?
* How did that work out?
* What kind of things did God cause to happen?
* Look in Gen: 8-10 and tell about one of the first 9 plagues?
* What was the yearly Passover Feast to cause them to remember?
* What was the 10th plague?
* Who was protected from the 10th Plague?
* Pharaoh let the people go, but was he glad afterwards?
* Who was Israel’s “True Deliverer”?
* The Israelites had been separated from Egypt. How would they remain God separate people?

**Vocabulary words**

* I AM
* Plague
* Side-post
* Lintel
* Salvation
* The True Deliverer

The Eternal Review

Volume 1 10/30/2013 Issue 10

“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**Lost in the Wilderness**

We must continue to remember that God had His own “plan”.

Instead of leading the people directly to the land of Canaan, God directed them southeastward to Mt. Sinai. There He made a covenant with them. He promised to be their God and to allow them to be His people if they would obey Him and keep His commandments. The people wanted God's blessings and were quick to agree to the covenant. God gave them a law that specified exactly how they were to live as His chosen people.

Until this time, God had spoken directly to the fathers of faithful families. That system (called the Patriarchal system) continued with all people except this special group assembled at Mt. Sinai. God was preparing a special people to be ready for the completion of His plan.

God showed His power and protection to His nation in every conceivable way. He fed them when they were hungry; He gave them water from stones. He fought their enemies and shielded them as a father shields his son (Hos. 11:1).

But the people did not keep their side of the covenant. Within six weeks of agreeing to obey God and keep His commandments, they made a golden calf to worship. They murmured when they were thirsty and complained over the manna God had given them for food. On one occasion, they complained and criticized God and Moses. God sent a plague of fiery serpents upon the people. Many of them died. The people cried out to God and begged for relief. God heard their cry. He had a bronze serpent set in the middle of the camp. All who would look upon it would be saved.

Even when they reached Canaan's border, they were too cowardly to go forward as God commanded.

People forced to wander in the wilderness

They sent twelve spies through the land.

Ten brought back word that the task would

be too difficult. Only Joshua and Caleb

trusted the power of God. The people were forced to turn back to wander forty years in the wilderness, until every soldier above twenty years of age was dead except Joshua and Caleb. Israel had been tested by God, but over and over they failed to trust and obey God

Moses was a faithful man. He delivered the people from Egypt. He was not the “promised” savior.

Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers give the

law of Moses in detail and tell the important

events during these forty years. Even Moses

disobeyed God on one occasion, and was not

allowed to enter the land. God allowed him to

view the land from the top of Mt. Nebo. There

he died and was buried by the hand of God.

The book of Deuteronomy is a series of speeches that Moses gave before he died. He pleaded with the people to be faithful now that God was going to let them enter the Promised Land. God promised that they would prosper and might remain in the lad as long as they were faithful to God. He warned from the beginning that they would be punished if they turned from Him.

Both sides of the picture

Then God has left it up to man to choose what he wants.

Curses

Blessings

### Bullet Points

* After crossing the Red Sea, where did God lead the people?
* What did God the people at Mt. Sinai?
* Do you remember the 10 Commandments (Ex. 20)?
* What were the conditions of the covenant?
* Did God tell the people how to live?
* After the Lord gave His special law to these people, the rest of mankind lived by what system?
* What were some of the ways God showed His power and protection?
* Did the people keep their side of the covenant?
* Tell of ways the people broke the covenant?
* What happened when the people reached Canaan’s border that caused them to wander for 40 years?
* The people had lost their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
* Why did Moses not enter the Promised Land?
* Moses pleaded with the people to do what?
* Who decides whether we get curses or blessings?

**Vocabulary words**

* Covenant
* Patriarchal
* Murmur

The Eternal Review

Volume 1 11/03/2013 Issue 11

“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**Due West**

The children of Israel are on the East side of the Jordan River. Moses has died and was buried by God. But before he died he turned the leadership over to Joshua, one of the two faithful spies. In Deu. chapter28, Moses told the people what God expected. Joshua accepted the new role, he accepted God laws. He would lead the people as God commanded.

This was the big part of God’s “plan”. He wanted a relationship with His creation. All along, this was what God desired. God’s covenant with the children of Israel was:

* I will protect you,
* guide you,
* love you,
* bless you,
* set you above all nations,
* do all I promised
* and be your God.

In turn the people were to:

* diligently obey the voice of the Lord
* observe carefully all His commandments

The children once again agreed to the terms



of the covenant. They dedicated themselves

to the Lord. They observed the “Passover”

and brought back circumcision.

Joshua led the people across

the river. The elders took stones

across the river and built a memorial to

remind them of their safe crossing. On the other side of the Jordan, they awaited instruction s on how to take the city of Jericho.

Once they were in the Promised Land, God no longer feed them. The people were not in a land of milk and honey. They could take homes that they did not build, groves that they did not plant and a God who would give this land to them as He had promised.

Joshua sent spices into the city to observe the city. They were protected by one of the harlots of the city. Her name was Rahab. Later you will see that she was in the linage of the Messiah.

The Commander of the Lord’s army appeared to Joshua. He went before Joshua and the children of Israel as they marched around Jericho as instructed. They marched by faith and God caused the mighty wall to fall down in ruins. Only Rahab and her family were safe from the fall.

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The Israelites were faithful to God under the leadership of Joshua and remained as long as the elders who served him lived.

### Bullet Points

* Who took over the leadership of Israel?
* Whose laws would the people follow?
* They were to diligently \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the voice of the Lord and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ carefully all His commandments.
* The stones were a memorial for the crossing of the Jordan. What was the memorial for their lives being saved from the death in Egypt?
* To show they were God’ people they once again practiced circumcision as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of their relationship with the Lord.
* Why do you think the Lord no longer sent the “manna” to eat?
* Who was a citizen of Jericho that ended up in the linage of Jesus Christ?

Vocabulary words

* Diligently
* Rededicate
* Carefully
* Terms
* Memorial
* Linage

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The keys to a good relationship with God are

FAITH AND OBEDIENCE.

The Eternal Review

Volume 1 11/06/2013 Issue 12

“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**God Keeps His Promises**

**Israel Good Start-Can they keep it up?**

Two of the promises made to Abraham have been fulfilled by this time. Abraham's descendants have indeed become a nation, and God has led them to victory in gaining the land (Josh. 21:43-45). Only the spiritual promise was still lacking. God was still gradually unfolding His “plan” for mankind to learn, but the "fullness of the times" had not yet come.



The Israelites were faithful to God under the leadership of Joshua and remained so as long as the elders who had served with him lived. God was with Joshua and his fame spread throughout all the country. (Jos. 6:27)

But man is weak, what happened at Ai proves that. ”But the children of Israel committed a trespass regarding the accursed things, for Achan the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed things; so the anger of the Lord burned against the children of Israel”. (Jos. 7:1)

The Lord’s ”plan” was for Israel to go up and take Ai. Joshua sent men to Ai and they were defeated. When Joshua heard of this he tore his clothes and fell on his face weeping. Joshua called to God and asked why God had allowed this to happen? What would the Canaanites think of the children of Israel’s God? God answered Joshua, 7:**11**Israel has sinned, and they have also transgressed My covenant which I commanded them. For they have even taken some of the accursed things, and have both stolen and deceived; and they have also put *it* among their own stuff. **12**Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, *but* turned *their* backs before their enemies, because they have become doomed to destruction. Neither will I be with you anymore, unless you destroy the accursed from among you. **13**Get up, sanctify the people, and say, ‘sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, because thus says the Lord God of Israel: “*There is* an accursed thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the accursed thing from among you.” **14**In the morning therefore you shall be brought according to your tribes. And it shall be *that* the tribe which the Lord takes shall come according to families; and the family which the Lord takes shall come by households; and the household which the Lord takes shall come man by man. **15**Then it shall be *that* he who is taken with the accursed thing shall be burned with fire, he and all that he has, because he has transgressed the covenant of the Lord, and because he has done a disgraceful thing in Israel.’” (Jos. 7:11-16) Joshua and the children of Israel did all that the Lord had said.

As soon as the first victories were over, and each tribe received its portion of land, the soldiers grew lax. The Lord had told the children not to make any treaties with the people of Canaan. In Joshua chapter 9, the Gibeonites tricked the Israelites into a treaty. They did not drive out the remaining pockets of Canaanites, as God had commanded them. When they failed, God left the Canaanites to prove Israel to see if the nation would be faithful (Judg. 2:3). Israel failed the test. Very little time passed before they turned from God to the idols of their neighbors.

Israel is in Canaan. God kept His promise. But Israel did not do as God had commanded. Israel failed the test, just as they failed in the desert.

What will happen NOW ??

### Bullet Points

* What two promises had God already fulfilled?
* Why had the Spiritual Promised not been fulfilled yet?
* What happened that caused God to be angry?
* What happened at Ai to show God’ anger?
* So the anger of the Lord burned against the children of Israel, what does that mean?
* What happened to those that disobeyed God?
* How did Israel fail the test?
* If Israel had destroyed all the people of Canaan as commanded, would it have helped them to follow God?
* Why?

**Vocabulary words**

* Fullness of time
* Trespass
* Accursed
* Disgraceful
* Lax

The Eternal Review

Volume 1 11/10/2013 Issue 13

“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**The Cycle of Shame**

The next period of Israelite history is one of cycles. There was no one single leader during these 400 or so years as there had been under Moses and Joshua. The people would turn to idols; God would allow an enemy to oppress them; they would repent and cry to God for help; then God would raise a judge or deliverer.

Read Judges 2:11-16.

Time of obedience

CYCLE

OF

SHAME

God would raise a judge or

deliverer

People turned to IDOLS

The people repent and cry to God for help

God allows an enemy to oppress the people

There were fifteen such judges. There was Ehud, who killed Eglon king of Moab and led the people to throw off Moabite oppression. There was Deborah, who went with Barak the general to fight against Sisera and the Canaanites. There was Gideon, who defeated the numberless host of Midianites with his tiny army of 300. There was Jephthah, who vowed to sacrifice the first thing which came from his house if he were successful in battle. There was Samson to whom God gave superhuman strength as he served as a one man army against the Philistines.

Our first glance at the period would indicate it was a time of constant warfare. This is disproved, however, by such verses as Judges 3:11, 30, which says the land had "rest forty years" or the land had "rest eighty years."

The little story of Ruth occurs during the period of the Judges. It is a delightful story of a Moabite girl who left her home to follow her mother-in-law to the land of Israel. There she married

Boaz a near kinsman of her dead husband. Is it merely a human interest story, however? There were other virtuous young ladies in Israel. There were other happy homes. Ruth and Boaz had a son

named Obed. He had a son named Jesse, who had a son named David, who had a descendant named Jesus. Ruth was a link in the eternal “plan” of God!

### Bullet Points

* Explain the “Cycle of Shame”
* How many Judges were there?
* Even during shameful times, we find a faithful servant of God. Her name was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

**Vocabulary words**

* Cycle
* Shame
* Shameful
* The Eternal Review

Volume 1 11/13/2013 Issue 14

“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**“Give Us A King”**

The “cycle of shame” continued for over 400 years. Toward the end of the judges, a man named Eli was priest and judge. During this time there were still faithful men and women. A woman, who had been barren, came to the tabernacle daily to pray for a child. Her name was Hannah. God heard her prayers. She was so happy to have a son. She named him Samuel. When he was of age, she brought him to Eli and dedicated him to the service of the Lord. Samuel found favor in the eyes of the Lord.

When Eli was old, his sons disobeyed God. Eli and his sons died. Samuel was made the last judge over Israel. He had a long life and served God all his days.

The keys to a good relationship with God are

FAITH AND OBEDIENCE.

The children of Israel saw the other nations around them. They begged Samuel for a king. “See the other nations. They have a king to lead them, to fight their battles and rule over them.”

They wanted to be just like the other nations. They rejected God. This made God very sad. God had Samuel to warn the people about having a king.

### 1 Samuel 8 10So Samuel told all the words of the Lord to the people who asked him for a king. 11And he said, “This will be the behavior of the king who will reign over you: He will take your sons and appoint *them* for his own chariots and *to be* his horsemen, and *some* will run before his chariots. 12He will appoint captains over his thousands and captains over his fifties, *will set some* to plow his ground and reap his harvest, and *some* to make his weapons of war and equipment for his chariots. 13He will take your daughters *to be* perfumers, cooks, and bakers. 14And he will take the best of your fields, your vineyards, and your olive groves, and give *them* to his servants. 15He will take a tenth of your grain and your vintage, and give it to his officers and servants. 16And he will take your male servants, your female servants, your finest young men,[[a](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Samuel%208&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-7386a)] and your donkeys, and put *them* to his work. 17He will take a tenth of your sheep. And you will be his servants. 18And you will cry out in that day because of your king whom you have chosen for yourselves, and the Lord will not hear you in that day.”

The people choose to have a king. God had Samuel appoint a king for Israel. He was just what the people wanted. He was a rough and ready man from the tribe of Benjamin named Saul. At the beginning he was a faithful man. He did what God told him through Samuel. He soon became prideful. He no longer obeyed God and his family was rejected from ever being the king. They were killed in battle

God had Samuel appoint another man to be king before Saul died. He was David the seventh son, the youngest, of Jesse of the tribe of Judah. Saul’s jealousy of David and God’s favoritism toward David caused Saul to hunt David to kill him.

After Saul’s death, David served as king for 40 years. He was a good king. He proved his faith often. David was a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22). There are about 130 chapters in the bible either relating the history of David or recording the Psalms he wrote. He was human and made mistakes just as other great men have done. Perhaps we are most impressed with his righteousness as we read the psalm of penitence he wrote after his sin with Bathsheba (see Psalm 51).

David wanted to build a temple for God, but God sent Nathan the prophet to tell him that he could not do so because he was a man of war. God promised to let David’s son Solomon build the house. God then promised to establish David's throne forever. God would never remove His mercy from the line of David as He had from Saul (2 Sam. 7:12-16; 1 Chron. 17:71-14).

### Bullet Points

* During the time of the judges were there ever any people who were faithful?
* Before Jesus Christ, did God hear His people’s prayers?
* How did God answer Hannah’s prayer?
* What did she do to show her gratitude to God?
* What did Eli’s sons not serve as judges?
* Who had been the leader of Israel?
* What kind of warning did Samuel give to the people?
* Who did God appoint as king?
* What caused his down fall?
* Who did God appoint to be the second king?
* Can you remember any way that David showed his faithfulness to God? (Goliath)
* David was a good king, but he sinned. How could he remain a “man after God’s own heart”?

**Vocabulary words**

* Barren
* Gratitude
* Rejected
* Pride
* Jealousy
* Favoritism

The Eternal Review

Volume 1 11/17/2013 Issue 15

“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**Long Live The King**

Israel has had two kings. The first one was Saul, a man who sinned. He lost his kingdom. The second was David, a man who sinned. The kingdom was given to his heir forever.

Just what was the difference between these two men? To begin with, Saul was just the type of man that Israel wanted to be their king. He was strong, powerful, proud and jealous. David was the kind of man that God wanted to be their king. He was strong, powerful, humble and a servant of the Lord and the people.

When Saul sinned, he gave excuses and slowly drew away from God further and further. At the end of his days he did not consult God but a witch from Endor to give him guidance. The Lord sought Saul out to tell him through Samuel that his fate was sealed. He and his sons would die in battle.

### When David sinned, and his sins were grievous, and was found out he confessed to God and to Nathan. David wept bitterly. He prayed to God for forgiveness. In Psalms 51, David wrote how grievous was his sin and shame before God. David knew all he had done were sins against God. David had to deal with the consequences of his sins, yet he was forgiven and walked closer with God all the rest of his life. David also wrote these words, Psalm 32:10-11 “Many sorrows *shall be* to the wicked; but he who trusts in the Lord, mercy shall surround him. Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous; and shout for joy, all *you* upright in heart!” This was truly:

A man after God’s own heart.

Before David died, he proclaimed his son Solomon king. God appeared to the young king Solomon and told him to ask what he would. Solomon asked for wisdom, so God was pleased and granted him wisdom far above others. In addition, God gave him riches, honor, peace, and long life, if he lived faithfully. Solomon did build the temple as God had promised. The fame of his wisdom and wealth spread abroad. He wrote Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon. The nation of Israel reached its greatest size during his reign. Unfortunately, he was led away from God by his many wives and the foreign gods they worshiped.

### Bullet Points

* This lesson is about all men. Roman 3: **23**for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. How does one man lose his soul to the world?
* How does another man keep his soul with God?
* How do we lose our soul?
* How can we save our soul?

**Vocabulary words**

* Confess
* Bitterly
* Consequences

The Eternal Review

Volume 1 11/20/2013 Issue 16

“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**Wisdom Is Not Enough**

Solomon, the third king of Israel, he had it all. And it all came from God.

* Wisdom
* Riches, prosperity galore
* The land that God had promised his ancestor, Abraham
* Built the temple for God
* Linage of David
* Enjoyed peace

God made a covenant with Solomon in 1st Kings chapter 9:

**1**And it came to pass, when Solomon had finished building the house of the Lord and the king’s house, and all Solomon’s desire which he wanted to do, **2**that the Lord appeared to Solomon the second time, as He had appeared to him at Gibeon. **3**And the Lord said to him: “I have heard your prayer and your supplication that you have made before Me; I have consecrated this house which you have built to put My name there forever, and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually. **4**Now if you walk before Me as your father David walked, in integrity of heart and in uprightness, to do according to all that I have commanded you, *and* if you keep My statutes and My judgments, **5**then I will establish the throne of your kingdom over Israel forever, as I promised David your father, saying, ‘You shall not fail to have a man on the throne of Israel.’ **6***But* if you or your sons at all turn from following Me, and do not keep My commandments *and* My statutes which I have set before you, but go and serve other gods and worship them, **7**then I will cut off Israel from the land which I have given them; and this house which I have consecrated for My name I will cast out of My sight. Israel will be a proverb and a byword among all peoples. **8**And *as for* this house, *which* is exalted, everyone who passes by it will be astonished and will hiss, and say, ‘Why has the Lord done thus to this land and to this house?’ **9**Then they will answer, ‘Because they forsook the Lord their God, who brought their fathers out of the land of Egypt, and have embraced other gods, and worshiped them and served them; therefore the Lord has brought all this calamity on them.’”

But Solomon had his own way. Continue in chapter 9.

**10**Now it happened at the end of twenty years, when Solomon had built the two houses, the house of the Lord and the king’s house **11**(Hiram the king of Tyre had supplied Solomon with cedar and cypress and gold, as much as he desired), *that* King Solomon then gave Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee. **12**Then Hiram went from Tyre to see the cities which Solomon had given him, but they did not please him. **13**So he said, “What *kind of* cities *are* these which you have given me, my brother?” And he called them the land of Cabul,**[**[**a**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20kings%209&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-9065a)**]** as they are to this day. **14**Then Hiram sent the king one hundred and twenty talents of gold.

And Solomon did many things for his glory. Continue in chapter 9: **15**And this *is* the reason for the labor force which King Solomon raised: to build the house of the Lord, his own house, the Millo,**[**[**b**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20kings%209&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-9067b)**]** the wall of Jerusalem, Hazor, Megiddo, and Gezer. **16**(Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up and taken Gezer and burned it with fire, had killed the Canaanites who dwelt in the city, and had given it *as* a dowry to his daughter, Solomon’s wife.) **17**And Solomon built Gezer, Lower Beth Horon, **18**Baalath, and Tadmor in the wilderness, in the land *of Judah,* **19**all the storage cities that Solomon had, cities for his chariots and cities for his cavalry, and whatever Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem, in Lebanon, and in all the land of his dominion. **20**All the people *who were* left of the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites, who *were* not of the children of Israel— **21**that is, their descendants who were left in the land after them, whom the children of Israel had not been able to destroy completely—from these Solomon raised forced labor, as it is to this day. **22**But of the children of Israel Solomon made no forced laborers, because they *were* men of war and his servants: his officers, his captains, commanders of his chariots, and his cavalry. **23**Others *were* chiefs of the officials who *were* over Solomon’s work: five hundred and fifty, who ruled over the people who did the work. **24**But Pharaoh’s daughter came up from the City of David to her house which *Solomon***[**[**c**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20kings%209&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-9076c)**]** had built for her. Then he built the Millo.

**25**Now three times a year Solomon offered burnt offerings and peace offerings on the altar which he had built for the Lord, and he burned incense with them *on the altar* that *was* before the Lord. So he finished the temple. **26**King Solomon also built a fleet of ships at Ezion Geber, which *is* near Elath**[**[**d**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20kings%209&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-9078d)**]** on the shore of the Red Sea, in the land of Edom. **27**Then Hiram sent his servants with the fleet, seamen who knew the sea, to work with the servants of Solomon. **28**And they went to Ophir, and acquired four hundred and twenty talents of gold from there, and brought *it* to King Solomon.

Solomon had chosen a path without considering God.

* His treasures were earthly
* His wives led him toward foreign gods
* He had to many personal projects
* His focus was on self

This led to PRIDE. The kingdom was in distress by the time Solomon died. He had overburdened the people with taxes and they wanted relief. When Rehoboam, Solomon’s son, became king, the ten northern tribes rebelled because Rehoboam would not listen to their pleas for relief. Jeroboam became king over the northern portion of the land, which retained the name Israel, as the nation had always been called. Rehoboam was left with only two tribes in the south, and he called his little kingdom Judah. God divides the kingdom as part of His “plan” to serve His purpose.

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A Selfish life, built without God is empty.

A life lived for God is rewarded here and in the hereafter.

### Bullet Points

* God gave Solomon more than any other man before him. He had did all. What big mistakes did he make?
* What does 1 Cor. 15:33 say?
* How did Solomon lose his way?
* Did wealth and power and fame go to his head?
* What was his #1 sin?
* Did his son follow after God?
* Part of Solomon problems were because the people did not drive out all the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when they took over the land.
* Solomon was part of God’s “plan”, but did not always live by God’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Vocabulary words**

* Selfish
* Overburdened
* Resentful

The Eternal Review

Volume 1 11/24/2013 Issue 17

“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**A Kingdom Divided**

The history of the Israelite nation had ended another phase. Israel left Egypt as a vast multitude of untrained slaves. God molded, taught, and reshaped the nation during the forty years of wilderness wandering under Moses. Joshua led an enthusiastic, conquering nation into Canaan, the promised land. Then followed the period of judges when each man "did that which was right in his own eyes" (Judg. 2l: 25). The people wanted a king and worked together under Saul, David, and Solomon during the period called the United Kingdom. Now the kingdom has divided into two small, sometimes warring, kingdoms. From this point through the rest of the Old Testament, the people fall farther and farther away from God.

Jeroboam king of the northern kingdom did not want his subjects returning to the temple at Jerusalem. He established his own system of worship: new gods, new priests, new feast days, and new laws. There was never a righteous king in Israel. The dynasty changed nine times before the kingdom fell!

### Ahab, with his wicked wife Jezebel, stands out as one of the most wicked kings of the period. Remember how the prophet took on the prophets of Baal on Mt Carmel. Elijah with the help of God won a great battle over the evil in Israel. The evil example of Ahab continued. Elijah, Elisha, Amos, Hosea, and other prophets were sent by God to warn Israel of impending doom. The Hebrew writer saw it here in Hebrews 12:6. 6For whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives.

### God had instructed the people on how they were to live. In Micah 6:8, Micah reminds the people, “He has shown you, O man, what *is* good; And what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?” But these people would not. Finally, God would tolerate their wickedness no longer. In 721B.C, God allowed the Assyrian army to overthrow Samaria, the capital of Israel. The people were led away captives, and foreigners were brought in to fill the land. These foreigners intermarried with the low class Israelites left in the land and became the hated mixed race later called the Samaritans. The world did not like them and the Jews hated them.

### Bullet Points

* What things have happened to Israel since they left Egypt?
* The people did what was right in their own\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. How did that sit with God?
* What did Jeroboam do to keep the people from following after God?

What happens to a people who do not obey God?

Israel, a nation that knew not God.

**Vocabulary words**

* Dynasty
* Impending doom
* Tolerate
* The Eternal Review

Volume 1 11/27/2013 Issue 18

“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**Judah Is Left Alone**

God is a being that keeps His promises. Abraham’s children became a great nation. Israel was given a great land. All of this was just what God said. But God had conditions to His promises.

Because there had been no faithful kings in Israel, the people had not lived up to the promises to love God and to serve Him as He instructed. So Israel is no longer. They have been carried away.

After this, the southern kingdom of Judah continued, but they, too, drifted away from God. Their descent downward was not as fast as Israel's, however, because they did have some good kings such as Asa, Jehoshaphat, Uzziah, Hezekiah, and

Josiah. There is no darker period in Israelite history than the divided kingdom. These kings all were descendant of David. The good ones were said to have followed after their father David. The example of one good man can continue for many generations.

Finally, God's patience was exhausted with Judah also. Here God tells how He felt, 2 Chronicles 36:15-16, 15And the Lord God of their fathers sent *warnings* to them by His messengers, rising up early and sending *them,* because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place. 16But they mocked the messengers of God, despised His words, and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against His people, till *there was* no remedy. In 606 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon led the first captives away from Jerusalem. We will see the prophet Daniel lived out his days in the city of Babylon. He returned for more captives in 597 B.C., one of which was the prophet Ezekiel. Nebuchadnezzar finally destroyed the city of Jerusalem in 586 B.C. Only the poorest of the land were left, and even they fled to Egypt within a few months. The prophet Jeremiah lived out his days in Egypt.

### Bullet Points

* After the fall of the northern kingdom of Israel fell, Judah continued because of what reason?
* The good kings followed after the example of what king??
* Name the three prophets that were still in Jerusalem at the time of Nebuchadnezzar?

Has God forgotten His plan?

Is it all over?

Never

for one moment!

God's chosen people

must be

punished, but He

did not allow man's weaknesses to

destroy His eternal purpose.

Judah, a nation that gave up on God.

Do you remember the promise to

David that the royal line would

remain in his family (2 Sam.7:11-16)?

The ruling family changed nine times

in Israel, but never once in Judah.

God's providence supplied a direct

descendant in each generation.

On one occasion, Athaliah the

daughter of Ahab tried to destroy all

the royal seed and usurp the throne (2 Kings 11:1-4). The baby Joash was hidden by Jehoida the priest for six years before he was brought to the throne. Another time, an enemy destroyed all the royal line, except for one son (2 Chron. 21:16-17).It was no accident that one was left each time to take his place on David's throne. These kings were important links in the plan of God. The same passage that promised the royal line would remain in David's family also warned that his descendants would be punished if they were wicked. Isaiah warned them, too. The punishment that came to the house of Judah was as much a part of God's “plan” as the blessings they could have had if they had remained faithful.

The Eternal Review

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“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**CAPTIVITY**

God’s word is true, and true to His “plan”. Punishment came to Judah as well. The influence of the people of Canaan and their idol worship brought the down fall to Judah. But God was still there. He loved His people even in there disobedience.

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Remember: The keys to a good relationship with God are

FAITH AND OBEDIENCE.

These people had lost faith and were no longer obedient,

but not all of them.

The writings of the prophets Daniel and Ezekiel tell of the captivity. You will see through their writings that God was still in Control. The first ones taken were the wise and the privileged young princes of Judah. One young man, named Daniel, held positions of high authority under king Nebuchadnezzar, and then under Darius of the Medes and Persians. He did not get in this position without the providence of God working for him at every turn. Just like his ancestor Joseph, Daniel found himself and three of his friends in prison being trained to serve in the court of the king. Even under these difficult circumstances he and his friends remained faithful to God. God gave him the ability to interrupt dreams as He had Joseph. Once again God’s people were preserved by the faithfulness of a remnant of His people.

One of the dreams that had come to Nebuchadnezzar was a prophecy of what was to come 500 years or more off in the future. Only God could know such. The children of God would understand its importance. Remember the three promises to Abraham and the patriarchs. The first two have been completed.



1. A great nation **X DONE**

2. A land of their own **X DONE**

3. All nations would be blessed through this nation

Nebuchadnezzar saw a statue. Do you remember the story? In Daniel chapter 2: **31**“You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor *was* excellent, stood before you; and its form *was* awesome. **32**This image’s head *was* of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs**[**[**c**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Daniel%202&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-21791c)**]** of bronze, **33**its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.**[**[**d**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Daniel%202&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-21792d)**]** **34**You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. **35**Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the

The head was of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Its chest and arms are of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Its belly and thighs are of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The feet were part \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and

part \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

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image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

This statue represents great nations of man that would come one by one and take down the one before it. But during the fourth nation, there would come a kingdom that would be mightier than any kingdom of man. This King would be of man and God. He would be the one promised in Gen. Chapter 3. He would be the fulfillment of the third promise to Abraham.

God is in control.

Remember God is in control of all the kingdoms of man. He uses them as He pleases for His own purpose. God foretold His plan so man would know. When any kingdom has served its purpose for God’s “plan” it will fall. And we learn later that they DID.

More was going on. From Jerusalem, Jeremiah foretold the captivity. It would only last 70 years. He warned them to accept the punishment of the Lord. Then from Egypt, he lamented the destruction of Jerusalem. Ezekiel lived among the common people in Babylon and gives us an insight into their lives during the period.

### Bullet Points

* What truth can you count on?
* What finally brought Judah down?
* What two prophets talk about the people of God being take off to Babylon?
* Had all the people rejected God?
* Did God have a purpose for Daniel?
* Once again God’s people were preserved by the faithfulness of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of His people.
* Daniel lived through how many kingdoms of man?
* Of the three promises to Abraham, which had not come to pass?
* What was the importance of the statue that Nebuchadnezzar saw?
* The stone that would come and finally take down the world powers would be who?
* Remember, God is in control of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the kingdoms of men.

**Vocabulary words**

* Providence
* Control
* Lamented

The Eternal Review

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“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**Going Home**

We see that God controls the universe and the actions of man. God’s anger against Judah was complete. God still needed man to carry out His “plan”. So the return to Jerusalem was necessary. We will soon see how all that Daniel prophesied would come about.

### Jeremiah the prophet had foretold the captivity would last for seventy years (Jer. 25:11). Sure enough, the first captives had been taken in 606 B.C. In 539 8.C. Babylon fell to the Medes and Persians. King Cyrus decreed that all captive people might return to their original homes. Isaiah in 44:24-28 prophesied that Judah would be restored.

**24**Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, and He who formed you from the womb: “I *am* the Lord, who makes all *things,* who stretches out the heavens all alone, who spreads abroad the earth by Myself; **25**Who frustrates the signs of the babblers, and drives diviners mad; who turns wise men backward, and makes their knowledge foolishness; **26**Who confirms the word of His servant, and performs the counsel of His messengers; who says to Jerusalem, ‘You shall be inhabited,’ to the cities of Judah, ‘You shall be built,’  
and I will raise up her waste places; **27**Who says to the deep, ‘Be dry!  
and I will dry up your rivers’; **28**who says of Cyrus, ‘*He is* My shepherd, and he shall perform all My pleasure, saying to Jerusalem, “You shall be built,” and to the temple, “Your foundation shall be laid.”’

Thus, in 536 B.C., exactly seventy years after the first captives had been taken from Judah, a group of Jews started for their home land. Zerubbabel led this first group. Only a small number returned. Their main objective was to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem.

As is usual in any worthwhile task, the people immediately faced opposition. The neighboring Samaritans interfered, and finally succeeded in stopping the work on the temple. For sixteen years nothing was done. The prophets Haggai and Zechariah urged the people to resume their work. The temple was finally completed, but the people did not remain faithful to God. It would take a strong leader to turn them back to the Lord.

Ezra brought another group back to Jerusalem and set about to restore the worship of the people (458 B.C.). Ezra found the Law of God. It was read before the people. Ezra and the people wept when they learned how they had disobeyed God for so long. Ezra and Judah worked hard to restore faithfulness to God.

Not much later, Nehemiah learned that the city was still in distress. He received permission from the king of Persia to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. He and the people worked hard and completed the huge task in only 52 days. Nehemiah and Ezra worked together to persuade the people to put away their foreign wives and to return to faithfulness to God.

The percentage of Jews who returned to their native land was actually small. By this time there were Jews scattered all over the then known world. God did not forget His people wherever they were living.

The book of Esther shows how God could exert His providence even in the court of a Persian king in order to save His people. Somewhere around this time, a young Jewish girl, named Ester became Queen. The faithfulness of her uncle and his advice to her caused the Jewish race to be saved from destruction.

### Bullet Points

* Who would God’s plan need to be carried out?
* Judah’s captivity would last how many years?
* How allowed the first people to return to Jerusalem?
* Who lead the first group?
* What was the first group interested in building?
* Did they have any opposition?
* Who urged the people to continue to build the temple?
* After the temple was completed, did the people go back to serving the Lord?
* Who came along to guide the people back to the Lord?

Remember: The keys to a good relationship with God are

FAITH AND OBEDIENCE.

* Who heard of the distress that was still in Jerusalem?
* Remember, God is in control, Nehemiah was able to secure the walls in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ days.
* What law had the people been disobeying for many years, yet made changes quickly?
* Who was the young Jewish woman that made a big difference in the preservation of the Jewish nation?

FAITH AND OBEDIENCE

CAN COME FROM ONE PERSON.

Name some.

The Eternal Review

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“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**God, are you out there?**

The prophet Amos had predicted that a day of famine would come, not of food or water, but rather a famine of hearing the words of the Lord (Amos 8:11). That time came following Malachi.

Malachi prophesied about the same time as Nehemiah and Ezra.

Perhaps we get our clearest picture of the spiritual condition of the people during this period from Malachi's writings. They went through a form of worship, but their hearts were not in it.

Malachi closes his book by saying there would come one in the style of Elijah to prepare the way "before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord" (Mal. 4:5).

The prophets had foretold additional information about this special One who was to come, but He was still a shadowy figure at this point. Now complete silence. The curtain has fallen upon the divine stage, and four hundred years pass with no recorded communication from God. Has He changed His mind? Has His “plan” been forgotten?

Babylon fell before the Old Testament closed. The Medo-Persian Empire fell about one hundred years after Malachi's book was written. Alexander the Great led the Greek as they conquered the world. Years passed, and Rome, the fourth world empire since Daniel's day, rose to power. God's prophecy had been that in the days of this empire He would establish His kingdom which would never be destroyed (Dan. 2:44). "The fullness of the times" had come (see Gal. 4:4).

### Bullet Points

* Amos prophesied a famine of what?
* What was wrong with the people during the days of Malachi?
* Who did Malachi say would come preparing the day of the Lord?
* Then silence. Has God forgotten?
* Has he changed His mind?

GONE

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Daniel’s Prophecy

GREEKS

GONE

GONE

Kingdoms came and went just like God through Daniel had said.

Now we are looking for the ROCK that is coming.

The Eternal Review

Volume 1 12/11/2013 Issue 22

“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**THE FULNESS OF TIME HAS COME**

Highways

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ANNA

SIMEON

Angels sang His arrival heard by shepherds.

He is of the tribe of Judah.

Is this the ONE whom the world has been waiting for?

YES!!!!!!!!

One crying in the wilderness preparing the way of the Lord

A child born in Bethlehem to a virgin

The promise of Jesus conceived of the Holy Spirit. This was the ONE. Immanuel

The promise of John

Mary

Zachariah

God Speaks Again

Language

Greeks brought many changes.

Jews are back in Jerusalem.

Kingdoms have fallen. Rome is in power.

God speaks. The curtain rises again to find an old priest named Zachariah serving in the temple. Suddenly, the angel Gabriel stood before him - the first communication from God since Malachi. Zachariah received the news that he was to be the father of John, the forerunner who was predicted by Malachi. He is left speechless. God has a “plan”.

Some six months later the same angel appeared to a young virgin named Mary. He told her she would have a child, conceived of the Holy Spirit. This would be Jesus, the Savior; Immanuel, God with us; Christ, the anointed one; the Word become flesh to dwell among men.

Her betrothed, Joseph, was contacted by the Lord not to put her away for unfaithfulness. Later Joseph took her to Bethlehem where Jesus would be born. All of this was foretold by the prophets of old.

He grew in faith and strength and wisdom. At 12 years of He was able to converse with the elders in the Temple. He was about His Father’s work. But who was His Father. That is the eternal question.

One was preaching in the wilderness telling of the One that was coming. This one was John. The world wondered if this was the “One”. He said it was not he.

While John was preaching by the River Jordan, a young man came to be baptized by him. John recognized this was the “Lamb of God”. This was Jesus.

Jesus leaves and goes to the wilderness to be alone, to prepare for the work that the Lord God had prepared for Him to do. While there Jesus was tempted to sin. Jesus did not. All through His life He was tempted as we are, yet He never sinned. Jesus left the wilderness. He chose 12 ordinary men to follow Him and learn from Him. He would prepare them to carry on after He was gone. But they did not want to hear that.

LESSON 22

**How can we trust that this is the ONE?**

**What does the bible say about this ONE?**

Look the following verses and tell what you find about

Jesus and the “plan”. Match the Event.

\_\_ Isaiah 7:14-Luke 1:26-38 A. Birth of Jesus

\_\_ Malachi 3:1-Luke 1:57-80 B. Visited in the temple

\_\_ Isaiah 9:6,7-Matt. 1:18-25 C. Birth by a virgin

\_\_ Isaiah 7:14-Matt. 1:24,25 D. Flight to Egypt

\_\_ 1 Tim. 3:16-Luke 2:8-14 E. Visited by wise men

\_\_ Lev. 12:3-Luke 2:21 F. Talked to elders @ 12

\_\_ Ex. 13:2-Luke 2-22-38 G. Jesus’ Circumcision

\_\_ Num. 24:17-Matt. 2:1-12 H. Announced by angels

\_\_ Jer. 31:15-Matt.2:13-18 I. Birth Announcement

\_\_ Deut. 16:1-8-Luke 2:51, 52 J. Purpose of John

The Eternal Review

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“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**Who Is This Man Jesus?**

All Israel is hearing about this man Jesus. He travels around with 12 close friends. They are not educated. They are not rich. They are just fishermen, tax collectors, a doctor and a thief. They wonder around the country side while Jesus preaches repentance, love, joy, humility, faith in a way unlike the elders and priest of their day.

He does things that no mere man can do. He does things that only someone from God can do. He heals the sick, calms the storm, feeds the thousands, forgives sin, walks on water and raises the dead-Miracles like none other.

He confronts the religious men of the day. In all respect, He calls them out for the ways they have led the people. He condemned the Pharisees and Sadducees and scribes. He exposed their hypocrisy, because the truth was not in them. He challenged them in the temple and turned over their tables of money. They became angry and sought to kill Him because He was a threat to their way of life. But He escaped because it was not time, yet. THIS COULD NOT BE THE ONE.

He comforted the weary, He showed compassion to the lonely and lost, He brought hope to the hopeless. The crowds followed to hear His message because He spoke like no other. Many believed. THIS COULD BE THE ONE.

Time was growing short. He needed more time with His apostles.

### Bullet Points

* Who was this man we are hearing about?
* What was the name of the 12 men that traveled with Jesus?
* What kind of things did Jesus preach about?
* What kind of things did He do?
* What religious men did He confront?
* Why were these leaders afraid of this man Jesus?

**Vocabulary words**

* Repentance
* Miracles
* Scribe
* Hypocrisy
* Apostles

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Just who is this man,

Jesus?

How can He do such

Amazing things?

Is He from God or the Devil?

The Eternal Review

Volume 1 12/18/2013 Issue 24

“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**Is This The “ONE”?**

It is this One - the Divine Son of God - who was to come to complete the “plan” of God. He is of the seed of Abraham. He is of the tribe of Judah. He is the One who fulfills the promises and prophecies.

In the last week of his life, he came to Jerusalem. This was the center of the Jewish religion and culture. The one who was to come was to be a warrior. A man to lead them against the Romans and set them back to the power that they had during the time of King David and Solomon. This was not this man Jesus.

### But if only the people could understand, Jesus had come to defeat a greater enemy, the one that brought about sin and tempts man to sin to this day. Satan had been a powerful enemy to Jesus. Jesus too had been tempted, but was without sin. Jesus was sent to rescue us from sin. He was sent to redeem us, to pay the price, to buy us back so we could walk again with God. 1 John 4:9 says “This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.”

He came to Jerusalem during the week of Passover. Jews had come from all over to celebrate the memorial feast of their deliverance from slavery in Egypt. Many who did not know of this man Jesus were curious about him. Many who knew Jesus threw palm leaves before his path as he entered on the back of a donkey. They would have crowned him King that day. But there were many plotting in secret on how they could kill him and be done with him for good. Was this part of the “plan”?

All of these reactions to Jesus were part of the “plan”. Ephesians 1:7 says, “In Jesus Christ we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace. His blood must be shed.

Jesus sits down with the 12 and several close companions. He has already in days past told them that his death was to come shortly. But he told all that he would raise this temple in 3 days.

Before he sat at the table he has heard the 12 talking. He lays his cloak aside. He takes a basin of water and a towel and begins to wash their feet. He explains that to be a true disciple of the Lord, they all must be a servant. They must humble themselves. They will be asked to do even more.

As they take the Passover lamb, he explains that he will be sacrificed as this lamb. He says that one of them will deny him that very evening. One will betray him. They all said how could this be so? They would never deny or betray him.

After they finished dinner, he took unleavened bread and broke it and shared it with them. He told them this represented his body that would be sacrificed for them and all men. He took the fruit of the vine and he drank it with them all. This represented his blood that would be shed for their sins. He instructed them to do this until He comes again in remembrance of what he was about to do.

These left with him. Judas had already left to betray Jesus. He talks with them on the way. He stops and prays. Then a mob comes to where Jesus is. Judas betrays Jesus with a kiss. The “plan” all of a sudden moves into fast motion. He is taken before the governing bodies. He is not found guilty of any crime. The custom was to release a criminal at Passover. Yet the people cried for Him to be crucified and to release Barabbas. The innocent Son of God was to be crucified, nailed to a cross, could this be part of the “plan”?

The sacrifice for our sins was required before the foundation of the earth. From the time that God conceived man, he knew the only thing that would have to send his Son to be the perfect, sinless sacrifice for our sins. This was the “PLAN”. Colossians 1 19-22 19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. 21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. 22 But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— Colossians 2:13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, 14 having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. 15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

1 Peter 2:24, “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; **“**by his wounds you have been healed.”

1 Peter 3:18, For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit.

### Bullet Points

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was the center of the Jewish religion and culture.
* Who was the enemy of Jesus (and man)
* Why was Jesus sent?
* This was how God showed his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for us.
* Why did Jesus go to Jerusalem?
* We could not have redemption without the shedding of His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* In the past when he told the apostles of his coming death, how did they react?
* What unusual thing did Jesus do while his friends were sitting around the Passover table?
* Jesus is sometimes referred to as the sacrificial \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* What feast do we observe that Jesus instituted on this last night?
* The innocent Son of God was crucified, was it part of the plan?
* What made Jesus the perfect sacrifice?
* Reconciliation came by making peace through his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, shed on the cross.
* God took our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ away by nailing them to the cross.

**Vocabulary words**

* Passover
* Plotting
* Humility
* Deny
* Betray
* Righteous
* Unrighteous

The Eternal Review

Volume 1 12/22/2013 Issue 25

“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**The End, Or Is It?**

The promises of all time have been hanging on this man Jesus. He was nailed to a cross to suffer a most cruel and painful death. He is dead. But this is not the end.

Jesus was taken down from the cross. He was buried in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. The Jews who hated Jesus wanted measures taken to prevent anything from happening to push these people forward. A heavy stone was rolled in front of the tomb. Guards were set by the tomb. No way would anything happen to this body of Jesus.



Jesus’s disciples went back to fishing. All that they had understood was gone. They did not understand the foolishness of the cross. Soon they would understand. Only through this could all the nations of the earth be blessed. This is part of the “plan”. Just how could this have happened? Later it would be written:

1 Corinthians 1

**18**For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Galatians 3:13

**13**Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.”

What happened next?

John 20:1Now on the first *day* of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw *that* the stone had been taken away from the tomb. **2**Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.”

Mary ran back to the tomb. John 20:**11**But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down *and looked* into the tomb. **12**And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. **13**Then they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.”

**14**Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing *there,* and did not know that it was Jesus. **15**Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?”

She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, “Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away.” **16**Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to Him,**[**[**a**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John%2020&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-26884a)**]** “Rabboni!” (which is to say, Teacher). **17**Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, ‘I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and *to* My God and your God.’”

**18**Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord,**[**[**b**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John%2020&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-26886b)**]** and *that* He had spoken these things to her.

This is part of the “plan” also. Jesus had risen from the dead. VICTORY over Satan and sin was guaranteed with His resurrection.

JESUS CHRIST IS ALIVE

.

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John were written that we might understand and believe that this Jesus fits every qualification ever set by God to be the Messiah. He was indeed the "Christ, the Son of the living God." He lived a perfect life to show man the life that is in God. He died to pay the price for sin and was raised to be the first fruits of them that sleep. He was crowned in heaven itself to reign on David's throne at the right hand of God.

John put it so clearly in John 20:30-31.

**30**And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; **31**but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

PRAISE GOD

### Bullet Points

* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of all time have been hanging on this man Jesus.
* This is why \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was sent.
* Where was Jesus buried?
* What was done to make sure Jesus would not be taken from the tomb?
* The disciples were so confused they went back to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Did they understand the cross?
* Was the cross part of God’s plan?
* Who was the first to return to the tomb?
* What did she do?
* Later she went back to the tomb, who did she see?
* What 4 disciples would later write the story of Jesus’ birth, life, mission, death and resurrection?
* Why were these things written?

**Vocabulary words**

* Foolishness
* Tomb
* Curse
* Perish
* Victory
* Resurrection

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Remember: The keys to a good relationship with God are

FAITH AND OBEDIENCE.

The Eternal Review

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“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**The Kingdom Comes**

After Jesus has risen from the dead he appears to his disciples. First he appeared to the 12. **John 2019**Then, the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, “Peace *be* with you.” **20**When He had said this, He showed them *His* hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. **21**So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” **22**And when He had said this, He breathed on *them,* and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. **23**If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they are retained.”

Later he appeared to as many as 500. He continues to walk and talk with them for some 40 days. These disciples wrote of these events as eyewitnesses to his appearing. It is important to us to know that they saw him, touched him, heard him and wrote about it all. This is the same way that we know many men of history lived.

On his last days on earth, he told the disciple that a “comforter” was coming. He would bring to their remembrance everything that Jesus had told them. Then they would go out unto all the world and proclaim this good news, the gospel, that Jesus died and is risen from the dead. He told them that he was going to heaven to prepare a place for them and all who would believe on his name. He told them to go to Jerusalem and wait

**Acts 1:9**Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. **10**And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, **11**who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This *same* Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into

heaven.”



Jesus ascends into the clouds

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The disciple saw him ascend into heaven. They waited for 10 days in an upper room. Then Luke records in Acts 2:**1**When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord**[**[**a**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts%202&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-26951a)**]** in one place. **2**And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. **3**Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and *one* sat upon each of them. **4**And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Peter stood up with the other apostles and shared the story of redemption that came through the family of Abraham just as you children have been learning here in your own study. He told them of all the marvelous things that God had done. He told how this one Jesus was the “ONE” that God had promised to bring about the sacrifice that would redeem us from our sins for all time.

**37**Now when they heard *this,* they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?” **38**Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **39**For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.” **40**And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation.” **41**Then those who gladly**[**[**g**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts%202&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-26991g)**]** received his words were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added *to them.* **42**And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

On that day, the day of Pentecost, the first sermon was preached. 3000 souls were added by God to His church. The church is the souls of the individuals who are washed of their sins by the blood of Jesus Christ. The blood that was shed for all who will believe (faith) and follow Him (obey).

FAITH AND OBEDIENCE

### Bullet Points

* Name some that Jesus appeared to after he rose from the dead?
* Not only do we have to believe in Jesus, we must also believe that he rose from the dead.
* How do you know that George Washington lived?
* How can we know that Jesus rose from the dead?
* Why were these things written?
* What was the good news of the “gospel”?
* What did Jesus do for the next 40 days?
* After 40 days, what happened to Jesus?
* The disciples all view \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as He ascended into heaven, He was gone.
* Did Jesus say He would come again?
* What happened on Pentecost?

1. What fell upon the apostles?
2. What did it cause them to do?
3. Who stood up and began to speak?
4. What family history did they tell the people?
5. What did the people say?
6. What were they told to do?
7. How many did that?
8. What did they receive?
9. This was all the results of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Vocabulary words**

* Cut to the heart
* Doctrine
* Fellowship

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“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**How can we know this man Jesus?**

**In Acts**

Just before Jesus went back to heaven, He told His disciples to “go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark16:15). The word gospel literally means "good news." In other words, Jesus was telling His disciples to go spread the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. Go tell the world that the Promised One has come. Go tell every person there is hope for forgiveness; there is hope for a home in heaven. Go tell the world that man may be reconciled with God. Go tell the world that God's “plan” for redemption has been revealed.

The apostles were given the Holy Spirit to guide them as they went throughout the world to tell people of this glorious “plan” of God. Today we have their words from God in the bible through

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the Holy Spirit. The book of Acts gives us a glimpse of the type work that was done. It also tells us that these men wrote other letter to brethren to encourage them to faithful service to God.

We have seen already in the 2nd chapter that the Jews were given the gospel. They understood about sacrifices for sins. They understood that they were responsible for the death of Christ, but not just them but all men. Now Jesus was the sacrifice for their sins. If they would only accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior, they would no longer need a yearly sacrifice.

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No more yearly sacrifice. Jesus was our sacrifice once and for all. He sacrificed His life that we might have life.

We see in chapter 4 that Peter and John would rather suffer 

the persecution of men as they obey and teach Jesus. It is better to obey God than man. Remember faith and obedience is the key to salvation and a good relationship with God.

In the 10th chapter, we see where God instructs Peter to go take the gospel to the first Gentile. He goes to the home of Cornelius. The Holy Spirit came upon Cornelius as it did the apostles. He and all he household obeyed the Lord in baptism. The promise of all nations being blessed is finally fulfilled here.

In the 9th chapter, Paul a devote Jew of the old school, a persecutor of Christians, is called to be an apostle out of season. He was to go to the Gentiles and preach.He did not walk with Jesus on earth. But Jesus appeared to him on the road to Damascus and called him personally. He like Peter and John would be persecuted for the cause of Christ. He would travel all over the world to share to gospel. He started new congregations of believers. He wrote to them to correct them, encourage them and to guide them in their new walk with God.

Acts 13:38-39 proclaims, 38 Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins; 39 and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.

The law of Moses is gone. The new covenant of Jesus Christ is in affect forever. It is the power by which all men can be saved.

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Law of Moses was only the shadow of what was to come.

Jesus and His words are established forever. We could not be saved of the Law, only by the blood.

Acts would follow as many of the apostles go about the work of the Lord. They will all serve Him unto death. They did all this that we might have life through Jesus Christ. The writings left for us, old and new testaments, are God’s way of helping us see:

* The love of God
* To know the love of Jesus Christ our savior
* To guide us in the path that leads to heaven
* To love each other
* To tell others of salvation

These are things we see in Eph. 4:11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

There is no other means by with we can be reconciled by to God. Roman 4:25 says “He was delivered to death for our sins and raised to life for our justification”. This was His “plan” from before the foundation of the world. Paul says in 2 Tim. 1:9,who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,

### Bullet Points

* How were the apostles to get the word out about Jesus?
* How do we get the word about Jesus?
* Is the word about Jesus the same today as it was then?
* If the “gospel” is for all, does that mean it is still for us?
* Who guided the apostles in their mission?
* The Jews crucified Jesus, but truly what put Jesus on that cross?
* Is there a need for a new sacrifice today?
* Peter and John were beat and put in prison for teaching the truth about Jesus. Was obedience important to God?
* Is obedience important today?
* What is the Key to a good relationship with God?
* When Cornelius and his family obeyed the gospel that meant that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ nations could receive salvation.
* Who was this promise made to? (can you think of more than one person?)
* What was special about Paul’s apostleship?
* Who was he to go preach to?
* Can we learn from the Law of Moses?
* Do we follow the Law of Moses today?
* By who’s law are we saved?
* The writing of the apostles and other inspired men are to help us see what?
* Is there any other way by which to be saved?
* When was this “plan” conceived?

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“foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, but was manifested at the end of times for

Your sake”…1 Peter 1:20

**The Blessed Gospel Is For All**

By the end of the first century, the new law, the law of Christ, had been fully revealed and written for mankind to read, understand, and accept (Eph.3:1-12). The laws and rules were given to guide us in shaping our lives to be like Christ, to partake of the divine nature (2 Pet. 1:4). Paul encourages us in Eph.4 **17**This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, **18**having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; **19**who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. **20**But you have not so learned Christ, **21**if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: **22**that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, **23**and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, **24**and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

The prophets of the Old Testament wanted to see the end of the picture (1 Pet. 1:10-12). They trusted by faith that God would keep his promises. We have it all revealed now in Christ. People of this era are heirs of the promises made to Abraham,

Isaac, and Jacob (Acts 3:24-25). Truly all men are heirs of these promises if they have faith and are obedient to the call of Jesus Christ. There is no other spiritual blessing we could ask.

The glorious, eternal “plan” of God is ready for us to accept. It is our choice. We may accept its terms and inherit the blessings, or we may reject its terms and be lost and without hope in the world. Life on earth is a short trial period to see which men may live in heaven with God for eternity.

Paul says in Romans 5: Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **2**through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. **3**Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; **4**perseverance, character; and character, hope. **5**And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.**6**You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. **7**Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. **8**But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

The New Testament closes with a book of victory. Revelation foretells the final victory of Christ over Satan at the judgment day.

The entire Bible is the story of Christ, the fullness of the scheme of redemption! This was the “plan” that God devised before the foundation of the world.

**Why is the “blood of Jesus” so important?**

### 1 Peter 1:18-1918knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, *like* silver or gold, from your aimless conduct *received* by tradition from your fathers, 19but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

The cost of redemption was expensive. It involved blood, and not just any blood, but the pure blood of Christ. There was no blood like His. I got to thinking about this recently. My wife and I cleaned up the Lord's Supper after morning worship. But as I was dumping out the juice from the cups, there were some that were not used. That's the thought that really stuck with me. This juice represented our Lord's blood. This juice was to remind us of that great sacrifice and the incredible freedom we have in Christ. There was some juice that was untouched. There was some that was poured down the drain. In some ways it seemed the blood was wasted.

WASTED BLOOD

The blood of Jesus is wasted by those who do not believe. Jesus died for all, yet not all believe. Not all even want to believe. There are some who like their life without Jesus. They like to live free from restraints and free from people telling them what to do. They like to do as they please and be accountable to no one but self. It sounds like a good life on the surface, but those that live that way are following Satan and they do not realize it. He has fooled them into thinking that they are free when they are not. They belong to him. What's worse is that someday that life wilI come to a crashing end. Thrown into eternity without God is the most horrific experience anyone can have.

WASTED BLOOD

The blood of Jesus is wasted by those who once made a commitment to Jesus but can't seem to keep it. They obeyed Jesus and at one time worshipped Him and followed Him. But time passes. The newness wears off. They begin chasing other things. Worship drops off. Their hearts become filed with other things. Work, shopping, sleeping all take a higher priority than Jesus. They become what Jesus talked about in the parable of the sower. The seedling is crowded out by weeds. The word doesn't grow in the heart as it should. Christianity has had little impact in this person's life. They have failed as a Christian. They will have excuses, such as they were too tired or no one paid attention to them, or they couldn't connect with the sermons, but the reality is, something else became more important to them than Jesus.

WASTED BLOOD

I expect those surrounding the cross, the blood of Jesus didn't look any different than other blood. It was red like other blood. It poured out like other blood. But the blood of Jesus was different. It was Heaven's sacrifice for our sins. It's was

God's great reach down to earth to save us. It's the only thing that could change our past. We can't go back and undo what we have done. The blood of Jesus changes that past. Those wrongs are gone because of that blood and my faith. There is nothing else that can do that for us. The blood of Jesus changes our past, it affects our present and it gives us great hope for the future.

It is so easy for us to get used to the Lord's Supper that we go through the motions without thinking about it. Some have decided to serve the Lord's Supper less often in order to make it more special. They do that without Biblical evidence or authority. It also misses the point. No parent says, “I'm not going to hug my

child once a month because if I hug him every day, it may not be special.” Really? No couple says, 'we are only going to kiss four times a year, because we want it to be special.' Really? It's not the frequency that's the problem. It's what’s running through our minds.

Precious Blood-there was nothing else like it. We need the blood of Jesus. We need to grasp how important that blood is. This is more than just a 'Sunday thing.' It's something that changes and affects my Monday as well.

All along it was by the blood of Jesus that we would be saved. God’s PLAN worked as He knew it would. People until this day and days to come can have hope of reconciliation with God because of the

Precious Blood of Jesus.

What can wash away our sins,

Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

What can make me whole again,

Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh, precious is the flow,

That makes me white as snow.

No other fount I know.

Nothing but the blood of Jesus!