

The Preparation of My Redemption

Introduction:

A. God plans ahead!

B. LET US DEVELOP A GREATER APPRECIATION OF GOD'S Plans!

I. God's Preparation - "The Fullness of Time Had Come"

[Galatians 4:4,5](#)

4

But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

5

To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

There seems to be at least two important components:

A. A promise had been made that was now about to be fulfilled - The promise under consideration in [Galatians 4](#) is the promise of son ship

[Galatians 3:26-28](#)

26

For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

27

For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

B. The Preparation was complete. The redemption of mankind was a planned event. The solution to sin was present before the introduction of sin itself

II Timothy 1:9

9

Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

I Peter 1:18-20

18

Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

19

But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

20

Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

1. The lamb was ready to be manifest, but only when the times were full.
2. The incarnation of Jesus was just the right move, at just the right time, for just the right purpose. God had a plan that had been in the works since even before the first appearance of sin.

C. The promise of a King

Isaiah 9:6,7

6

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

7

Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with

judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

1. 700 years before Jesus arrives on earth, his mission is laid out for all to see. There would be a new kingdom among men - a kingdom of peace & justice - ruled by a King whose sovereignty would have no end. Over and Over again, the prophets of God provided glimpses of the coming good news.

2. God spoke to David about a house and kingdom that would come from his seed in

[II Samuel 7:12-16](#)

12

And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.

13

He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever. [Ps 132:11](#) [Acts 2:30](#)

14

I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: [2 Cor 6:18](#)

15

But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee.

16

And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.

A promise that was reaffirmed in

[Psalm 132:11](#)

11

The LORD hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne. Acts 2:30 2 Sam 7:12,13

3. This throne was not be a physical throne in a physical city. (physical Zion would eventually be taken from David's seed for good.) But it spoke of a sovereignty reaching down from heaven itself - a spiritual kingdom that would be ushered in by the Spirit of God Himself

Isaiah 2:2-4

2

And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.

3

And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

4

And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

II. The Elements of God's Preparation:

A. The Law of Moses was never intended to provide redemption, but was an element of God's preparation until the times were full for the coming of Christ

Galatians 3:19-25

19

Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.

20

Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one.

21

Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law.

22

But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.

23

But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.

24

Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

25

But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

B. The 1st Century World: The fullness of time can also be seen in other elements of God's preparation for the coming of Christ.

1. First of all, the time was right religiously. During the Babylonian captivity, Israel once and for all forsook the idolatry into which she had so often fallen.
 - a. Also during the Exile, Jews developed synagogues, which they used as places of worship, as schools, and as courts. In addition to that, they at last had the completed Old Testament, assembled by Ezra and others after the return from Babylon.
2. Second, the time was right culturally. Alexander the Great had thoroughly established Greek culture and language throughout the known world, and a common language (Greek) assisted in the worldwide spread of the gospel.
3. Third, the time was right politically. Rome had instituted the pax Romana

(Roman peace), which provided economic and political stability. The apostles and other early preachers and teachers could travel freely and safely throughout the empire on the magnificent system of roads built by the Romans. Each of those factors was in some unique way a key to the spread of the gospel. God's timing was perfect.

C. The Preaching of Repentance:

1. As the time frame narrowed for the fulfillment of God's promise and the coming of the Kingdom, John, the baptizer came to prepare the way to God. In the last writing of the Old Testament Malachi spoke of the preparation for the coming of the Savior

Malachi 4:4-6

4

Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.

5

Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

6

And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse. [Luke 1:17](#)

2. John was the fulfillment of this prophecy as he preached repentance. The angel spoke about John's ministry before he was born

Luke 1:16,17

16

And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God.

17

And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord. [Mal 4:5,6](#)

3. John prepared the people for Christ by calling them to reform their life and thinking. He called for change. People are only prepared for God inasmuch as they are ready to turn from themselves and their sin and turn toward God.

III. A Glorious Incarnation: "He sent forth His Son" Jesus appeared on earth to provide for man what he most needed: redemption. Jesus completed his mission, taking on the form of a servant

[Philippians 2:7](#)

7

But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

Communicated truth to men

[John 8:32](#)

32

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

And willingly paid the ransom for every person's freedom

[Matthew 20:28](#)

28

Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

A. "born of a woman"

[Galatians 4:4](#)

4

But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

B. "born under the law", as a Jew under the full subjection to the law. In this capacity He could redeem us through His perfect atonement.

C. The Lord suffered in the body on the cross

Isaiah 53:7-10

7

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. Acts 8:32

8

He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. Acts 8:33

9

And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. 1 Pet 2:22

10

Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

D. "On this Rock I will build My church"

Matthew 16:17,18

17

And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

18

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

1. This church would be a single organism or body, called out of the world. Jesus never intended for His church to be a denomination or part of anything else.

2. His church would wear His name, act only upon His direction, and teach only His doctrine.
 3. Jesus' prophetic words constituted good news - a new people following and proclaiming a new message.
- IV. A Manifest Proclamation: "This thing was not done in a corner" - Consider how the apostle Paul describes the revelation of the "good news"

[Acts 26:22-26](#)

22

Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come:

23

That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles.

24

And as he thus spake for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad.

25

But he said, I am not mad, most noble Festus; but speak forth the words of truth and soberness.

26

For the king knoweth of these things, before whom also I speak freely: for I am persuaded that none of these things are hidden from him; for this thing was not done in a corner.

A. While it is true that some religions flourish in secrecy, Christianity has always been intended to be presented and defended openly. The truth does not hide. It welcomes the open forum, where there are investigating minds and critical evaluations.

b. Jesus not only offered his scarred hands and feet to Thomas but appeared to

over 500 people over a 40 day period following his resurrection

I Corinthians 15:5-8

5

And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:

6

After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.

7

After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.

8

And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

c. Paul took the gospel before Kings, Philosophers, and to the common slave.

Conclusion:

- a. God has prepared your salvation.
- b. He has left nothing undone. Jesus came in the fullness of time, died as the sacrifice for your sin and rose the third day, just as it was planned.
- c. The message of that good news has been openly preached among men.

Have you heard it?

Will you respond in faith?

d. Listen to your King who has prepared your redemption.