

Lesson 1: The Beginning & The End

Introduction:

- In this series we are going to look at God and what He has recorded in the Bible about what He has been doing from "the beginning" even "to the end" - the end being the brink of eternity.
 - In other words, we are going to look at history in truth, that is, Biblical history - His-Story!
 - This seems like a great task, in one sense it is, but due to the point in His-story that we live - it makes it a little bit easier.
 - The scripture is the authority on history and the supreme perspective of past, present, and even future.
 - This is exactly what we are going to peer into the corridor of time and how God today describes how He details the past, present, and future.

Preview:

- First, we will see that God is eternal; however, He is also "the beginning" and "the end"
- Second, we will examine "in the beginning" and "the end times", but what is God's purpose for time.
- Thirdly, in subsequent lessons we will plow through the portal of time revealed in the scripture of what is now past, the present, and what is to come
 - Hopes to provide you with:
 - God's ultimate and eternal purpose in Christ
 - Details of Time Past
 - Details of But Now
 - Details of To Come, and
 - The differences of each so we know how to be faithful in our time

Sermon:

God is Eternal (Eternal Life, Eternal Purpose, Beginning & Ending)

- **Deu_33:27** The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them.
 - **1Ti_1:17** Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.
- **Eternal Life**
 - **The people desired it** - Mat_19:16 And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?
 - **God promised it** - Isa_60:15 Whereas thou hast been forsaken and hated, so that no man went through thee, I will make thee an eternal excellency, a joy of many

generations.

- **Christ confirmed that promise** - Joh_3:15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life
- **Eternal Purpose**
 - **Eph_3:11** According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:
- **Rev_1:4** John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;
- **Rev_4:8** And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

God is "the beginning and the ending"

- **Rev_1:8** I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.
- **Rev_1:11** Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.
- **Rev_21:6** And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.
- **Rev_22:13** I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

God's Purpose for Times

- We do not understand God's purpose solely by "the ending", nor from what is set forth "in the beginning", but primarily of what He has "revealed".
 - God utilized the apostle Paul to "fulfill the word of God", to "give all scripture" and therefore it is in Paul's writing that we come to understand God's purpose for "Time"
- **Ephesians 1:7-12** In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; {8} Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; {9} Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: {10} That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: {11} In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: {12} That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.
- **Ephesians 3:9-12** And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus

Christ: {10} To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, {11} According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: {12} In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.

- **The Beginning**
 - Genesis 1:3 (Jn. 1)
 - Christ
 - Genesis 1:26-28
 - "dominion"
 - "subdue"

- **The Ending**
 - Revelation 21:1-6, 22-27

- **All Done in Christ**
 - 1 Corinthians 15:20-28
 - Philippians 3:20-21

Conclusion:

- In subsequent lessons we will examine how this is all carried to fulfillment throughout time
- Distinctions of carry out this plan in "time past", "but now", and "to come" so we can rightly divide the word of truth and understand the time in which we live and how we are to walk unto the Lord!