

A PLAN FOR THE AGES

**ALIGNING OUR LIVES WITH GOD'S
COSMIC BLUEPRINT**

IN THE CLASSIC CHRISTIAN TRADITION, WHAT WERE WE MADE FOR?

“This is eternal life that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.” John 17:3

“Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me.” Jeremiah 9:23-24

⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth in him...(to the praise of His glory).

OUTLINE:

1. The Sovereign Blueprint

- A. The Mystery
- B. The Plan
- C. The Purpose
- D. The Timing

2. The Response: Living Under the Headship of Jesus

- A. Who's in charge?
- B. Surrender the illusion of Control

1. The Sovereign Blueprint:

a. The Mystery revealed (V. 9):

“...*making known to us the mystery of his will*”

b. “The plan” (V. 10)? ¹⁰ ...*as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth in him.*

The plan is a summing up of all history and is a consistent promise throughout Scripture

Matthew 25:31-34: States that when the Son of Man comes in His glory at the end of the age, He will sit on His glorious throne and rule as King

1 Corinthians 15:24-25: Christ's rulership means that every opposing power, trouble, and death itself is completely conquered.

Philippians 2:9-11: The ultimate destination of human history is for every single tongue to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Revelation 19:16: Describes Him coming as King of kings and Lord of lords to rule the nations.

The plan reveals God's control of History

Psalm 103:19: *The Lord sets His throne in heaven, and His kingdom rules over everyone and everything*

Proverbs 16:33: *The lot is cast into the lap, but its every
decision is from the Lord*

Isaiah 45:7: *I form light and create darkness; I make success and create disaster; I am the Lord, who does **all these things***

Daniel 4:35: *God does what He pleases with the powers of heaven and the people on earth; no one can stop Him or ask why He does it*

“How sovereign is God?”

c. The Timing: V. 10

The Fullness of Time

d. The Purpose: V. 14

“...The Praise of His Glory”

**Everything in history and in the culmination of
history is designed to bring Him glory**

2. The Response: Living Under the Headship of Christ

a. In our world, it would seem that chaos reigns. **Who's in charge?**

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." (Matt. 28:18)

God raised Jesus from the dead and seated Him at His right hand, putting "all things under his feet" far above every rule and authority (Eph. 1:19-20)

So, what is His purpose in this Age?

In light of all this, how are we to live?

b. Surrender the Illusion Of Control:

- Practice honest prayer, shifting focus from self-reliance to God's sovereignty;
- Stop viewing Jesus as a “personal assistant” and see Him as a loving Sovereign Lord, remembering the fear of the Lord produces righteous living
- Cease striving against the circumstances of life surrendering to the Scriptural promise that God is quietly working for His glory and our good in every situation;

b. Surrender the Illusion Of Control:

- Anchor our minds on Scriptures like Proverbs 3:5-6 training our limited, anxious thinking for the quiet guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- Stop chasing self-validation, recognizing that our identity and approval come from Christ's finished work

We have talked about God as Father and God as King.
The two intersect in Christ:

The Father's Authority: God is not a weak, permissive father who winks at sin. He is a Royal Father. His house has standards, boundaries, and discipline.

The King's Accessibility: In Christ Jesus, the King has adopted us. The Ruler of the universe gives His sons 24/7 access to the throne room.

As men in Christ, we are to reflect this divine balance in
our lives

By Grace,

We bow before His Throne in absolute submission

We walk to His Table in absolute assurance