

Foundations

God's Plan

Titus 2:11-14

We have come to the final message, so let's make a quick review:

- **God's Truth:** Scripture is God's special revelation of Himself
- **God's Identity:** One God, eternally existent in 3 persons
- **God's Work:** In Christ, God transforms sinners into saints
- **God's Effect:** He affects temptations, relationships & communities
- **God's Family:** Seen in marriage, experienced in church
- **God's Plan:** What is He doing? What does the future hold?

"Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand." **Proverbs 19:21**

"I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted."
Job 42:2

Main Idea: God's Plan Involves Getting People Ready for the Return of Jesus

"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possessions who are zealous for good works." **Titus 2:11-14**

God's Plan has Two Parts

I. God's Plan for People

"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope...who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possessions who are zealous for good works." **Titus 2:11-13a, 14**

- **Plan for Everyone:** Display His Grace, Offer Salvation
"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people..." **2:11a**

- **Plan for Believers:** Live Differently & Love Diligently
"...training us to renounce ungodliness & worldly passions, & to live self-controlled, upright, & godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope...who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness & to purify for himself a people for his own possessions who are zealous for good works." **Titus 2:11b-13a, 14**

"We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. Amen."

Salem Church Statement of Faith (Article 10)

All people, everywhere, will glorify God in one way or another. One group of people will glorify God by being trophies of His grace. The other group will glorify God by experiencing his righteous judgment. Which group do you fall into?

*"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going." Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'" **John 14:1-6***

"Everyone is going to spend eternity somewhere." **Johnny Hunt**

II. God's Plan for Jesus

"...the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ."
Titus 2:13b

Here is What We Know: Jesus is Coming Back

Here is What We Don't Know: When, How or Order of Events

But Here is What We Do Know: Jesus is Coming Back!

"We believe in the personal, bodily and glorious return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission." **Salem Statement of Faith (Art 9)**

"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

Hebrews 10:24-25

"And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming." **1 John 2:28**

"We have missed the whole purpose of the study of prophecy if it does not conform us to the Lord Jesus Christ in our daily living." **J. Dwight Pentecost**

How Do I Get Saved? It's as easy to understand as A-B-C.

Admit: *"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* **Romans 3:23**

Believe: *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."* **John 3:16**

Confess: *"Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."* **Romans 10:9**

God has a plan for you! Get ready by getting saved today.

Sources and Further Reading Opportunities:

- *Theology for the Church* – Daniel L. Akin (2007)
- *Wiersbe Bible Commentary* – Warren Wiersbe (2007)
- *New Illustrated Bible Dictionary* – Ronald F. Youngblood (1995)
- *Strong's Concordance* – James Strong (1890)
- *Tony Evans Book of Illustrations* – Tony Evans (2009)
- *Swindoll's Ultimate Book of Illustrations & Quotes* – Charles Swindoll (1998)
- *Knowing God* – J.I. Packer (1973)
- *Doctrine* – Mark Driscoll (2010)
- *Gospel* – J.D. Greear (2011)

