

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

PREDESTINATION

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PART 1: WHAT IS PREDESTINATION?

IN THE BEGINNING, DID GOD HAVE A PLAN?

The Bible clearly teaches that God has a plan for His creation, which was prepared before the creation got under way. This knowledge was not made known unto men until the time of Christ and the apostle Paul makes it clear that the death and resurrection of Jesus was planned before the creation of this world. There would never have been a crucifixion if the Devil and his princes had known the plan. **1 Corinthians 2:7-8**

In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul gave us some more information. **Ephesians 1:9-12; 3:1-6;**

We can conclude that God knew mankind would fall into sin and would need to be rescued.

We can also conclude that sin did not originate with man but came into existence before Adam and Eve were created. This knowledge was not revealed to the people of Israel until some 700 years before Christ. **Isaiah 14:12-20**

About 100 years later God provided more information. **Ezekiel 28:11-19**

By the time Jesus came to the earth in the form of a man, the people in Palestine knew about Satan, that people were possessed by devils, but they were not sure how things existed and in what form.

Jesus told the people He did not work in the power of the Devil. **Matthew 12:24-29**

Jesus also told the people that He had seen Satan thrown out of heaven. **Luke 10:17-18**

It was not until some 90 years after His birth that the risen Jesus revealed what took place in heaven before man was created. **Revelation 12:7-12**

Lucifer through his rebellion became known as the Devil, Satan, and that old Serpent who accused God of not being loving and it wasn't fair for God to sentence him to the Lake of Fire. **Matthew 25:41**

God never had a salvation plan to redeem the fallen angels; their fate was sealed once they joined Lucifer in rebellion.

We can therefore conclude with certainty that God does have a master plan for His creation.



WHAT IS GOD'S PLAN?

We can learn God's plan by piecing together all the information given to us in the Bible:

God has the capacity to be in the past, in the present and in the future at the same time. When God looks at the creation, He sees the beginning, all things in between, and the end.

God wanted to make a creation with beings that had a free will and used that free will to love and walk with Him. Only angels and mankind were given a free will. God knew that one third of the angels and a large portion of mankind would reject His love; therefore, God prepared an eternal place for the beings that rejected Him and a new creation without sin for those who made the choice to love Him. *There won't be any free will in the second creation, everyone will be locked in and never again tempted with sin.* This in itself will be heaven.

THE DETAILS

1. God created the angels. **Job 38:1-7**
2. God created the universe. **Genesis 1:1**
3. God allowed the rebellion of Lucifer to take place with a war that raged throughout the universe.
4. God held a trial for Lucifer and his fallen angels, already knowing that Lucifer would appeal and put doubt in the minds of the angels that God is not righteous. God would prove His righteousness by creating mankind and giving Lucifer access to tempt him, already knowing that Adam and Eve would succumb to the temptation. **Romans 3:25-26**
5. Adam was the prince of the earth, and when he sinned, that authority was transferred to Lucifer until the redemption plan was enacted and God the Father sacrificed Jesus the Son to take away the punishment of sin on the human race and poured out His wrath upon His totally innocent Son. Sadly, mankind is rebellious, unthankful and does not want to be saved.
6. God has allowed Lucifer to form false religions and lead billions of people astray.
7. God is allowing Lucifer to make war with the Church, the body of Christ. **Revelation 12:17**
8. God will allow Lucifer to build up a World Government with a one world religion which will oppress and persecute God's people, with many of them being tortured and killed. He will watch injustice, abortion, and imprisonment of Christians whose only crime is being born again.
9. God will finally put a stop to the madness with the second return of Christ.
10. God will refurbish the earth and set up the thousand years kingdom.
11. God will allow Lucifer a last attempt to deceive the people born during the thousand year reign of Christ.

12. God will have a final judgment for all unsaved people at the Great White Throne Judgment.
13. God will remove all unsaved people from the earth and cast them into the Lake of Fire where Lucifer and his fallen angels have already been sent.
14. God will dissolve the entire creation with the exception of the Lake of Fire which will exist somewhere for eternity.
15. God will start a second creation that has no possibility of sin.

THIS PLAN IS ALSO KNOWN AS PREDESTINATION

There are no surprises for God and every minute detail in this plan is known in advance. In knowing how angels and humans are going to act, God has put in counteractions that will accomplish His will over time.

An angel or man can rebel for a season, but there will be a day and a time when God will put a stop to it and demand an account. **Philippians 2:9-11**

EVERY HUMAN MUST FACE SATAN

God started the process of proving His righteousness when Lucifer appealed the guilty verdict that would send him to the Lake of Fire. The sentence to the Lake of Fire still stands even though much time has gone by; thus, Satan has the legal right to challenge, tempt and mistreat every believer in Christ while God pulls back for a season.

It happened to Job. **Job 1:1-22; 2:1-13**

It happened to Jesus. **Matthew 4:1-11**

It happened to the apostle Peter. **Luke 22:31-32**

God knows in advance who will overcome the Devil and who will fall to the onslaught.

Predestination is God knowing in advance the outcome of an event and being able to design a countermove.

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?