

GLORIFIED

Now days, if you ask, most people they will say that people are basically good. But it only takes one good dose of the nightly news to remind us that man's selfish, self-centered, and spiritually dead nature has a tremendous capacity for evil.

Millions of people have been taught the scripture in Romans 3.23 that says, all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

They've also been taught that their sins must be forgiven to go to heaven when they die.

They've been encouraged to pray the sinner's prayer, join a church that they like, and wait for Jesus's return.

In the United States alone, roughly two out of three people claim to have done this.

Unfortunately, these things can be done utilizing man's natural understanding and the exercise of his will.

I'd like to take a few minutes and share a few things about God's incredible redemptive plan, the Gospel, that man's natural understanding cannot even comprehend and his human effort could never accomplish.

Jesus came to Earth as a man, preaching everywhere, repent, for the Kingdom of God is here. He came to reveal the Father's incredible love for all mankind, to pay the penalty for man's sin, and invite all men to enter God's kingdom by faith in His incredible work on their behalf.

Corinthians 2.14 declares that the natural man cannot understand the things of God because they are spiritually appraised.

The gospel is not a religion to be joined, a denomination to be affiliated with, or new set of behaviors to be attempted by our own efforts.

The gospel is just like God. It's spiritual, supernatural, and eternal. God is the only one in the universe who can do it.

Let's look at Romans chapter 8.29 and

For those whom He foreknew [of whom He was aware and loved beforehand], He also destined from the beginning [foreordaining them] to be molded into the image of His Son [and share inwardly His likeness], that He might become the firstborn among many brethren.

And those whom He thus foreordained, He also called; and those whom He called, He also justified (acquitted, made righteous, putting them into right standing with Himself). And those whom He justified, He also glorified [raising them to a heavenly dignity and condition or state of being].

We can see from this scripture that God invited all men to receive His incredible sacrifice for them. He called all men to be redeemed back into His family and His kingdom.

And those He called He also justified. Justified means that He acquitted them of the penalty of their sin, He made them righteous and put them in right standing with Himself.

Colossians 1.21 confirms this.

And although you at one time were estranged *and* alienated from Him and were of hostile attitude of mind in your wicked activities,

Yet now has [Christ, the Messiah] reconciled [you to God] in the body of His flesh through death, in order to present you holy and faultless and irreproachable in His [the Father's] presence.

Romans 5.6 also declares that,

While we were yet in weakness [powerless to help ourselves], at the fitting time Christ died for (in behalf of) the ungodly.

Now it is an extraordinary thing for one to give his life even for an upright man, though perhaps for a noble *and* lovable *and* generous benefactor someone might even dare to die.

But God shows *and* clearly proves His [own] love for us by the fact that while we were still sinners, Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One) died for us.

God has always wanted us, more than we ever wanted Him.

As I said before, human religious effort can not accomplish this. It's something that only God can do.

The scripture goes on to say, that those He justified, He also glorified and raised them to a heavenly dignity and condition or state of being.

Why would God go to such great lengths and at such great expense to glorify rebellious, sinful, and helpless people?

Let's look at some scriptures that reveal God's intention from the beginning.

Genesis 1.26

God said, Let Us [Father, Son, and Holy Spirit] make mankind in Our image, after Our likeness, and let them have complete authority over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the beasts, and over all of the earth, and over everything that creeps upon the earth.

Man was created to be God's supreme creation to manifest His incredible love and His Kingdom on this earth.

In John 17.22, Jesus told His Father,

I have given to them the glory *and* honor which You have given Me, that they may be one [even] as We are one:

I in them and You in Me, in order that they may become one *and* perfectly united, that the world may know *and* [definitely] recognize that You sent Me and that You have loved them [even] as You have loved Me.

God recreated us into our original oneness with Him so that everyone on the entire planet would know the He sent Christ to make them members of His family and that He loves them like He loves Christ.

Look for a minute at Isaiah 60, it reveals another of God's purposes.

Arise! Shine (be radiant with the glory of the Lord), for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and dense darkness [all] peoples, but the Lord shall arise upon you, and His glory shall be seen on you.

And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

The light of God's glory on His people is to attract the nations to His Kingdom.

John 1.1 Tells us where the light actually comes from.

In the beginning [before all time] was the Word (Christ), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God Himself. He was present originally with God.

All things were made *and* came into existence through Him; and without Him was not even one thing made that has come into being.

In Him was Life, and the Life was the Light of men.

And the Light shines on in the darkness, for the darkness has never overpowered it.

God's testifies in 1 John 5.11, that He has given us His eternal life, and that life is in His Son.

As God's children, we've been saved into Christ's eternal life that lights all men.

The final outcome of God's supernatural work can be found in

1 Thessalonians 1.9

When He comes to be glorified in His saints [on that day He will be made more glorious in His consecrated people], and [He will] be marveled at *and* admired in all who have believed [who have adhered to, trusted in, and relied on Him], because our witnessing among you was confidently accepted *and* believed [and confirmed in your lives].

God's original intention was that every person on this planet would be redeemed into His family and every nation become citizens of His kingdom.

God has charged us, as His children, to continue His redeeming work on this Earth. We call it the Great Commission. It's in 2nd Corinthians 5.18, it states,

But all things are from God, Who through *Jesus* Christ reconciled us to Himself [received us into favor, brought us into harmony with Himself] and gave to us the ministry of reconciliation [that by word and deed we might aim to bring others into harmony with Him].

It was God [personally present] in Christ, reconciling *and* restoring the world to favor with Himself, not counting up *and* holding against [men] their trespasses [but cancelling them], and committing to us the message of reconciliation (of the restoration to favor).

So we are Christ's ambassadors, God making His appeal as it were through us. We [as Christ's personal representatives] beg you for His sake to lay hold of the divine favor [now offered you] *and* be reconciled to God.

Let me wrap up this video with a few final thoughts.

I've shared a boatload of scriptures with you in this video. My intention was not to give you a Bible teaching for you to mentally process and file away with every other teaching that you've ever heard.

I've shared with you Kingdom Realities that God has already spoken and already done. He has already committed His Holy Spirit to us as the guarantee of our possession of them.

The continual application of a powerless academic gospel will never fulfill God's Great Commission through His children for this Earth.

The Apostle Paul declares in

1 Thessalonians 1.5 that our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit

He also said in 1Corinthians 1.4

And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom [using clever rhetoric], but [they were delivered] in demonstration of the [Holy] Spirit [operating through me] and of [His] power [stirring the minds of the listeners and persuading them], so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom *and* rhetoric of men, but on the power of God.

Jesus spelled out God's plan in Acts 1

5 For John baptized with water, but not many days from now you shall be baptized with (introduced into, submerged in) the Holy Spirit.

8. you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

These next verses are Jesus's final directions to His disciples to continue to manifest His kingdom from Mark 16.15

And He said to them, Go into all the world and preach *and* publish openly the good news (the Gospel) to every creature [of the whole human race].

He who has believed [in Me] and has been baptized will be saved [from the penalty of God’s wrath and judgment]; but he who has not believed will be condemned.

And these attesting signs will accompany those who believe: in My name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new languages;

They will pick up serpents; and [even] if they drink anything deadly, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will get well.

These are the results of the application of God's plan. Mark 16.20

And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord kept working with them and confirming the message by the attesting signs *and* miracles that closely accompanied [it]

So what does this really mean for us today?

I believe that the Father wants us to follow Jesus's command to repent. Repent of our natural lives inherited from Adam and Eve, and put on the eternal life that He has made available to us, His children, so that His kingdom will be manifest in this Earth.

The Father wants us to accept that He has made us completely one with Him so that His Presence, His Authority, and His Glory can draw all men to him.

God bless you.