

## **GOD'S ETERNAL PLAN AND PURPOSE**

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God; the image of the invisible God and the firstborn of all creation. All things were created by Him and for Him, He was before all things and by Him all things are held together. He will bring all things together under His headship (Colossians 1:12-20).

God has a people, called by His grace, chosen in love before the foundation of the world, according to the pleasure of His will. He will bless this people with every spiritual blessing in Christ for all eternity (Matthew 25:34; John 17:24; Ephesians 1:3-14; 1 Peter 1:20; Revelation 13:8, 17:8)

All these people will be mercifully redeemed from their bondage to sin and their sins will be graciously forgiven through Christ's blood shed on the cross as the propitiation for their sins (Romans 3:24, 25; 6:17, 18; John 17).

This plan will be worked out by God to demonstrate His love, and for the eternal praise of His glory. This is God's purpose (Romans 5:6-9, 9:22-24; Galatians 4:4; Ephesians 1:4-14; 1 John 4:9, 10).

God's plan is progressively revealed in Scripture. It moves from seed to harvest, from shadow to reality, from promise to fulfillment; from Adam to the Patriarchs, to Israel and the Old Covenant, to Christ and the New Covenant, and to All Eternity (from Genesis 3:15 to Revelation 7:9, 10 to Revelation 20-22).

Seeing God's Plan and Purpose to eternally love and save a people, called and chosen by grace, through faith in the substitutionary atonement of Jesus Christ is foundational to understanding the unity of the Bible.