

God's Plan to Save Us

Romans 8:28-30

Before the foundation of the world, God knew we would sin and He made a plan to save us (I Pet. 1:20). Foreknowledge precedes predestination, thus removing problems associated with free will (Rom. 8:29). God's plan to save us is the dominating theme of the Bible. In that plan, "all things worked together for good" to insure the success of the plan (Rom. 8:28-30).

A PROBLEM AND AN EARLY GLIMPSE AT THE SOLUTION

1. Genesis 3:15.
2. From the seed of the woman *only* (virgin birth implied; cf. Job 9:30-35)

ABRAHAM—THE PROMISE

1. Genesis 12:1-3
 - a. Promises for the nation
 - b. The promise of salvation
2. The Promise through Abraham's own child (Gen. 15:1-21)
3. The Promise through both Abraham and Sarah's child (Gen. 18:9-18)
4. The Promise through the child to be sacrificed (Gen. 22:1-18)
5. Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Gen. 26:1-4; 28:10-14; Ex. 3:13-15; 6:1-9)

DAVID—THE KINGDOM

1. A King to reign forever (II Samuel 7:12-19)
2. David and Abraham are keys to the Promise (Matt. 1:1)
3. The true king (Gen. 49:10; Ezek. 21:25-27; Lk. 1:30-33)
4. The new kingdom (Acts 2:29-32; 13:22-23)

THE PROMISE, THE KINGDOM, AND THE INHERITANCE (Acts 2:29-39)

1. The Promise (Acts 2:39; 3:25)
2. In Christ (Gal. 3:16, 29; Gen. 22:17-18)
3. A kingdom (Matt. 16:13-19)
4. Tied to our inheritance in Christ (Gal. 3:13-19; Rom. 4:13-16; 8:15-17; 9:8; Acts 26:18)
5. Relationship of the "gift of the Holy Spirit," the Promise, and the inheritance (Acts 2:38-39; Rom. 8:16-17; Gal. 3:14, 18-19; Rom. 4:13-16; Eph. 1:13-14; I Cor. 2:12; Gal. 4:4-7)

God's promise to Abraham and the additional aspects relating to David involve two key components. In these we see both earth and Heaven working together. Israel would be the temporal means to fulfill God's eternal spiritual plan. The greatness of the Promise is in our great inheritance in Jesus as citizens of His Kingdom. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, God revealed the great blessings of salvation and gave the down payment.

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