

# GREATEST PLAN EVER GIVEN!



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VIRTUAL

The greatest plan ever would be a plan that guarantees eternal life at no cost—and given to anyone who is willing to forsake everything they have on earth and to then trust God in faith for everything. Luke 14:33 “Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.”

Everything in life starts with a *possibility* and proceeds to a *reality*—life itself is a miracle. In a little known town of Nazareth God brought *life* to the most common of settings, and He gives us *hope* through the birth of His Son. What happened 2,000 years ago is still changing lives today in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. What happened *then* should continue to effect everything we do *now*.

The angel told Mary that the Child to be born Luke 1:32 “Shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David.” God would give the world His greatest gift—bringing hope where not much hope existed.

God is always ready to give hope to everyone. A young Jewish maiden would be part of the *greatest plan ever given* when God brought *hope to reality*—Jesus would be *born*, and the world would be *changed* forever! The season is not about power, possessions, or even pointlessness, but it *is* about sharing, caring, giving, and loving everyone.

God came in Person to touch this troubled world—simply because *He is love* 1 John 4:8, 16.

John 3:17 “For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 18 He that believeth on him is not condemned.” The living *hope* and the blessed gift of the Gospel is Colossians 1:27 “Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

The *greatest plan ever given* began in Bethlehem—when God became man and lived with His creation on earth. John 1:3 “All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing that exists came into being. 4 In Him was Life, and that Life was the Light of men. 5 The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overpowered it.”

Many things in the world today have the potential to overpower the message of Truth God has given in His Word, but by the grace of God, and through the power of His Spirit, we can remain connected to the True Vine of spiritual nourishment, and we will grow in the knowledge of God by meeting things in life as His Word instructs us to meet them.

The greatest *story ever* of the greatest *plan given* is explained in the Gospels Matthew 1-2; Luke 1-2, and in many prophetic passages Psalms, Isaiah, and Micah 5:2 “But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.”

There is a *right* way to observe the holiday—like *encouraging* someone who *needs* encouragement—and reminding them of the hope Jesus gives to anyone willing to believe and trust Him in faith. The lyrics of a seasonal song are from Scripture Micah 5:2—*The hopes and fears of all the years, are met in Thee tonight. Where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.*

The advertising and commercializing of the holiday seems to increase every year, but Christmas is not about buying and accumulating more

and more things—although one would not know this from the frantic shopping at malls and the huge amount of online buying. The holiday is about *helping* one another; giving *gifts* to those in need; treating each other in a *kind* and *considerate* manner—just making someone feel *wanted* and *loved*.

Many people know they should try to make the holiday *less* materialistic and *more* family oriented—and that *should* be the goal, but there is *more* to the observance than that. Jesus must be at the very *center* of this holiday and every day after. *We are the reason* He was born on that day—to later give His life on a cross and to *forgive* the sins in our past.

Christmas celebrates a divine event that proves the *divinity* of Christ. He came to this earth for the purpose of *doing* the Father’s will and *following* His plan. It is a reminder of our God who came to *live* with us and to *proclaim* His Truth to the world. This is a good time to read about the story and the plan Matthew 1-2; Luke 1-2—asking God to open our minds to understand the true meaning of what took place that night in Bethlehem. Matthew 18:11 “For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.” All who truly *seek* Him can *know* He will protect them from the wrath to come.

Several extraordinary births are recorded in the Bible—Abraham and Sarah with Isaac Genesis 17; Samson Judges 13; Samuel as the first prophet, last Judge, and anointer of kings 1 Samuel 1; and John the Baptist Luke 1; but as meaningful as each one was, none is as important and significant as the virgin birth of Jesus—born that day to fulfill the perfect plan of God—the greatest plan ever given!

The virgin birth is clearly stated in Scripture and is essential for God’s perfect plan to be fulfilled. God knew He had to present the *humanity* and *deity* of His Son, because it is the basis of

the Christian faith. He had two gospels to record the birth of Jesus and how it all came about.

Many try to keep the *reason* for the *season* in mind before, during, and after December, but can still miss the vital importance of the incarnation of Jesus. Although cards, candles, and cranberries attract our attention during the holiday, the fact that the virgin birth was part of God's perfect plan to save sinners, should be our focus through every holiday and every day!

For any plan to be considered great, it would have to be one with a reasonable *cost* and one that assures positive *results*. Plans offered by the world are beyond counting and are for every possible aspect of living on earth. There are millions of medical plans; financial advice; and protection agencies offering their services. These three aspects of living—money, medicine, and protection are of such concern today that they are first priority for most people.

Health-care plans are the primary concern for those in the world, so the medical community has some type of plan to cover every health issue imaginable. Such plans have a huge price tag, however, and often the results of *following* those plans are disappointing. Statistics say that complications from surgeries and medical mistakes resulting in death are staggering today.

Having enough money is as much of a concern as health issues are, so there are a multitude of financial plans, ideas, and advice on how to be financially secure way past retirement years. Such advice and plans from banks and investment groups, come with a price, and they too have often resulted in disappointing results or yielding no significant dividends—not to mention the possible financial losses due to poor investments or wrong advice.

Protection from harm, injury, or loss is another major concern today, therefore security firms have more than their share of plans offering

some type of protection to assure the safety of individuals and their families—everything from fool-proof alarm systems, to firearms, padlocks, iron gates, and more. But every plan comes with a *price*, and often failing in their *promise* to protect the one paying for the service; the device; or the system.

None of the above would qualify for the *best plan ever given*, much less the *greatest* plan. God, however, offers all three plans—all rolled into one—at no cost and with guaranteed results—if His plan is followed according to the instructions in Scripture.

God gave the plan early on Exodus 15:26 “*If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.*”

The problem is that not many *harken* to the *voice* of the One offering the plan, and most are not listening to, nor keeping, His commandments and instructions. Exodus 23:25 “*I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.*” Psalm 103:3 “*Who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases.*”

The divine plan of having enough food, clothing, and shelter for each new day, is clearly stated in Scripture. Nehemiah 9:21 “*Forty years You sustained them in the wilderness; They lacked nothing; Their clothes did not wear out And their feet did not swell*” Deuteronomy 29:5. If we will make our requests to God *in faith*, we will have an adequate supply each day *by faith*. Philippians 4:6 “*In every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God*”—then 19 “*My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*”

Protection is more of a concern than ever today, but God offers the *greatest plan ever*—without any price tag and guaranteeing perfect results to the one placing their faith on His promises. We first *accept* His plan Psalm 91:2 “*I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust*”—in *God* we trust; not in a plan of the *world* we trust.

God did not explain every detail of His plan, but He gave us enough information, so we could make *right* decisions concerning every aspect of life. He told us John 1:3 “*All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing that exists came into being. 4 In Him was Life, and that Life was the Light of men. 5 The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overpowered it.*”

Everyone is born with a free-will, and with the power to choose on whom they will trust. It is the greatest gift a Creator *could give*, and the greatest plan He *could offer*. It does, however, place a huge responsibility on us. *We* choose our own destiny, because it is our *decision* to choose what *plan of life* we accept and follow all through life.

God cannot *help* a person and Satan cannot *hurt* a person—without their consent. Whomever we *listen* to; whose word we *believe* and plan we *accept*; is what gives them *control* over our life at that point. God has provided the *Greatest Plan Ever Given*—at *no* cost and with *perfect* results—blessings for this life and lasting on into eternity. It is our *choice* and our *privilege* and our *responsibility* to accept the *Greatest Plan Ever Given!*



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