

GOD'S PLAN PROVIDES OUR DELIVERANCE

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People in Bible times who learned about God's plan of trust received a deliverance that His plan has provided for them. There-fore, we should realize how important and valuable it is to find out for ourselves what God's plan is all about. Satan has always tried to conceal God's plan or confuse it with many worldly plans that he has devised to rob people of receiving the benefits of what God provided for us and keep them from finding out what God is really like.

The truth is that God's plan is plain and easy to follow, and His many promises are found in His Word, and each one is backed by the almighty power of the sacrificial blood that His Son shed for us on Calvary's Cross. God's plan actually began in the Garden of Eden, where God created man to be happy and contented and with every needed thing provided for him. Man was also to be protected in that happiness, have a mind filled with God's peace, God's righteousness, and His blessing of perfect health. Hard labor and difficult upsetting working conditions were not part of God's plan. Instead, everything was provided for man to be perfectly happy, and he was perfectly happy.

God also gave humans a power of choice, and they could have remained in that happy state if Adam and Eve had used that 'power of choice' correctly. It was a greatest of gifts a Creator could have given to created beings (but the choice would have to be used right).

But Satan appeared and deceived the first people with what he made to look like a wonderful offer, saying, that if they would listen to him they would become their own gods, knowing as much as God knew, and being able to do as much as God did. That is Satan's scheme for deceiving the whole world, and to get everyone away from God's Word, (by having them refuse to listen to God, and instead, to listen to him). Listening to Satan's lies is the cause of all troubles.

We are naturally susceptible to seeing things the way the devil says they are. Everyone born since Adam was born under the devil's control and grew up under it, so a person will get as used to it as breathing (but without knowing it). However, when we turn our back on the lie that we thought was true, and we choose to follow an entirely different (but true) teaching (which may seem mysterious or perplexing at first), we will soon find that it really is simplicity in itself. And there is a plan in God's Word to use in every situation of life (in dealing with our fellowman).

Adam and Eve used their power of choice to turn from the security of God's plan to the insecurity of Satan's plans of the self-life; (and the results were terrible). Mankind became a different being because they changed from the nature of God to the devil's nature (but without realizing it). It is important for us that that is understood because when their attitude to God changed (to directly opposite to what it had been), that is when trouble began. They had come under the control of Satan, and everyone born from that day to this has been born under that same control of self.

The devil's control has one basic characteristic, which is to depend completely

on ourselves (or some other person), or a plan inspired by the devil and devised by man, to get what we want in this life. It is trying by our own efforts to get back to the perfect happiness that God had given to man in the Garden of Eden.

We were created with an instinct to be happy, and that is the incentive for everything a person does in their life. Every word spoken, and every step taken by humans has one object, that is, to find the happiness that was enjoyed in the Garden of Eden but to get it by their own efforts. We can easily see that the more people try by human efforts, the farther they get away from their objective (and the further away from God's plan for receiving things through a life of trust) (with good spiritual results).

Human efforts are the foundation of Satan's control. Every evil thing in the world overall and in individual lives has one foundation cause (or origin), that is, a human effort apart from God and His power, to obtain what one desires in this life.

When Adam and Eve rebelled against God, it meant that they were sentenced to death (and everyone else was born in that same terrible spiritual condition). It is much the same in human affairs, for we can see how zealous a country is to find persons who are disloyal to the Government. When a spy is captured, they are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law, because treason (in the Bible or out of it) was always punishable by death. The only way the human race could atone for their rebellion against God would be to die for it. God knew (as we know) that it would not be proper to execute someone for treason that another person was responsible for. Adam is the one who was truly guilty, but we were born under that curse for treason thru that sin of Adam (so just as punishable by death as was Adam's sin).

Instead of everyone having to die because of the disloyal act of another person, God (in His great mercy and love), sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, to die in our place. Christ is divine, and He has the same nature as God. Everything was created by Him and for Him, and He was before all things. Jesus is the most valuable part of God's universe, and the most valuable One in it. God in His great mercy for us sent Jesus to this earth to die for us!!

It is a most important fact for each one of us to understand, that when Jesus Christ died for us, it was exactly the same as if we had died (for our own sins and rebellion against God). He actually paid the penalty for us, and it was the necessary and only requirement that had to be paid to atone for sin. It was an eternal sacrifice for sins, past and present, and any sins that are confessed to God in the future. His work on the Cross provided everything needed to atone for our sins, for where sin hath abounded (which it certainly has), mercy did much more abound. [God's mercy was extended to each one of us, and it is His plan for our deliverance from sin and every attack from the devil if we will only accept His offer and believe on Him in faith to receive it. Everything in the true Christian life is received by faith, even to our believing that we have been pardoned through the blood of Christ, cleansed, and forgiven by His blood, and made worthy by His blood to receive Eternal Life.]

God's provision for us was far more than we could ever need or use. He

pardoned our sins, and He will continue to pardon us when we come to Him in sincere repentance. He cleansed our hearts and has more cleansing for us than we could ever need. His righteousness (to be extended to the true believer), is greater than any sin we ever committed. (Romans 5:17), “For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more, those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness, will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.”

So, we can see from Scripture, that the provision is far greater than the need. Greater health than we could ever need is in the Atonement of Christ. More peace in our life, or more money than we could ever use is also provided in the Atonement work of Christ. If we can be enabled to see it as plain and simple as it is, that when Christ died for us, it was exactly the same as if we had been executed for our sin of rebellion against God. It is of great importance for us to understand, that His death made us as free from sin, sorrow, disease, and poverty as if we had died and were absolutely free from it all). (We only have to admit to our sins and confess them and see ourselves forgiven because the ‘price of atonement’ has been paid... Jesus paid it all (for us). We only have to believe in real faith that we are free from sorrow, illness, or poverty to be delivered from it (because of the shed blood of Christ).

Anyone in the Bible who understood that and believed it was delivered from the trouble they were in. So, we need to put great emphasis on and understand that thoroughly. It isn't anything that we could do (or have done), that will deliver us from our sins, sorrow, illness, or poverty. Rather, it is because of what Christ has already done on the Cross for us if we would only accept that fact and place our trust on Him (as God told us we have to do to receive the benefits of His Atonement work). That is the only condition (or requirement) that God puts on His eternal plan for our deliverance, (that is, to be a ‘believer’ on Him whom He has sent, His Son Jesus.)

Members of most churches in the world are trying to find peace and happiness (or get back to the conditions that God created in the Garden of Eden) via their own self-efforts. Their efforts of self (and trusting in man's plans to get the things they want to be happy in this life), takes them further away from what Christ has already accomplished for them on the Cross. Most are not trusting on the Son of God for anything in their life. It is the sin of unbelief (or idolatry), which is the worst sin of all (the Apostle Paul explained).

It is not a matter of what we do by self-efforts to be free from bondage of Satan, it is what someone else, Jesus Christ, has already done for us. That is what sets people free, it is what delivers them, and what brings answer to prayer, and that is what gives the victory, (as well as rich spiritual growth and development in the Truth).

The late Pastor said that someone told him they had a difficult battle to meet, and they just told God, “I am going to place my whole claim and hope of victory on the blood of Jesus Christ and His great work on the Cross”. They got a full deliverance at once, and that is the way it always was in the Bible. In the Old Testament, faith in even the poorest type of Jesus Christ (a serpent hung on a tree or a slain animal), brought perfect victory spiritually, physically, financially, and in

everything else.

So, when Jesus Christ died on the Cross, it was our death, and we were scripturally and justly set free from sin, sorrow, and illness. (Most importantly), we are delivered from the influence of the devil and the control of the evil nature, if we truly believe that we are delivered from it and believe that the Holy Spirit will control us as we allow Him to do so.

Most people have never fully realized that the perfect work of Jesus Christ on the Cross delivered us from sin, from its guilt, its power, and, from the devil and his power and influence. Also, delivered from sickness, illness, infirmities, and oppressions of the body, as well as from poverty and every other disturbance of our peace, and from the other evil things around us in this life. Because of the work of Christ on the Cross, we have every Atonement right to be delivered from wrong desires as we resist the devil steadfast in faith and on the power of Jesus' blood to deliver us.

When Jesus Christ died, it made us free from all the evil things that we inherited from the first Adam. The Atonement made us as he was when he was first created (before he used his power of choice in the wrong way and fell away from God's grace). Our freedom from sin was paid for by the blood of Christ. It was nothing in us or nothing that we have done or could do, but altogether what Jesus Christ did for us. [The Bible doesn't say that the work of Atonement puts everybody in Heaven. It says that the Atonement work delivers us from sin (especially from the sin of the 'self-life'), if we will believe that and accept it, and begin trusting on the Son of God (instead of self and sins of a self-life. That is God's 'Message of Salvation'.)]

That is the Truth that sets people free. That is what the Bible teaches, and God has made it as plain as possible for us to grasp and to receive the great benefits from knowing and believing it. It is the Truth that sets people free!!

When Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, it was exactly the same as if we had come back to life as an entirely different (and new) person. We need to believe that is what He has already done for us and consecrate ourselves to living a life of faith on what the power of His shed blood has accomplished (to pardon, cleanse, and pay for our forgiveness). When He was raised to life, death was conquered, and we were raised to life with Him, if we will only believe on Him whom God has sent. That is God's plan for our deliverance and Salvation.

In God's sight, Jesus Christ tasted death for every human being, and that is what delivers us from that sin of rebellion we inherited from Adam as well as from all disturbances of our peace (including sorrow and sickness). (The shed blood of Jesus Christ covers everything in the life of the true believer (who will place themselves and loved ones, and all that God has provided for them under His protective blood). That is what it really means to be in union with Jesus Christ.

We were counted as dead when He died and counted as alive spiritually when He was raised from the grave. That new life 'in union with Christ', is for everyone

born since Adam fell into sin. The perfect sacrifice of God's only Son (the perfect Son of God) to deliver us, cannot be improved upon. Therefore, it was an eternal sacrifice made in our behalf, which could not have been accomplished by any other person or by any type of animal sacrifice (for all others would be imperfect). That is why the perfect Son of God, had to be sent to earth by the mercy of God (His Heavenly Father), to take the curse of Adam's rebellion away from us by His taking our place by dying for us on the Cross. Why Jesus Christ died on the Cross is something we all must understand (accept and place our faith on). That is why we partake of the bread and juice of the vine, in remembrance of His broken body and His blood shed for us on the Cross at Calvary.

God tells us just how we are to connect up with our inheritance that He provided in His plan to deliver us from sin and Satan's bondage (by sending His Son to die for our sins). God inspired the Apostle Paul (5th. chapter of Romans) to say(vs.1) "Standing then acquitted as the result of faith, let us enjoy peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also, as the result of faith, we have obtained an introduction into that state of favor with God in which we stand, and we exult in hope of some day sharing in God's glory."

(In chapter 6:1-4, Paul said), "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?" (Paul was saying, shall we continue to live in ways of the old life, that God's mercy and grace may be greater, and bring more glory to Him for being more merciful to us?) Then Paul used the strongest language known to man, "God forbid". Then (vs 2-4) "How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore, we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." (Fully delivered from sin and Satan and self). It is the same in regard to disease, trouble, and poverty, which were also taken away by Christ's work on the Cross. More health and prosperity than we could ever need is in the Atonement work of Christ.

When a person has died, they are freed from sin. We would not make an accusation against a person who had passed away. Well, we have to see ourselves as having died with Christ (just as much as if we had gone into the grave with Him), and we had that evil nature taken away and destroyed, then we can see ourselves as walking in newness of life, free from Satan's attacks and his influence over our life.

We are delivered from that curse of Adam's rebellion against God and made free by the second Adam, Jesus Christ. "How shall we that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" (The Bible says), so that is the way we have to believe that we are because of the mercy of God in sending His Son, Jesus Christ to die for us. (Gal.3:22 reminds us), "But Scripture has shown that all mankind are the prisoners of sin, in order that the promised blessing, which depends on faith in Jesus Christ, may be given to those who believe."

That is God's plan and His provision for our deliverance to believe on the One

whom He has sent to the Cross to die in our stead and to place our trust on Him that we may be saved from condemnation along with the world. "He who trusts on Him does not come up for judgement." (We are told, John 3:18).

We are delivered by the Atonement work of Christ. [Delivered from the curse of a life of self and mercifully brought to a life of trust on the Son of God. It was all paid for in that atoning work of Jesus Christ on a cross on our behalf to deliver us.]

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#S268R Some Main Points are;

1. The work of atonement that God sent His Son to do on Calvary's Cross was His plan to deliver us from the curse of Adam's sin.
2. Adam's sin of rebellion was treason against God, a crime that is always punishable by death.
3. The price for sin had to be paid for with sacrificial blood, for as Scripture says, "without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin."
4. The perfect Son of God was the only One who could pay that price, for no other being on earth was unblemished and could pay that price for mankind.

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The First Century Gospel Church/Philadelphia