

GOD HAS A PLAN FOR OUR LIVES!

“You saw me before I was born and scheduled each day of my life before I began to breathe. Every day was recorded in your book!” (Ps 139:16 TLB)

GOD KNOWS WHO WE ARE

God, as you know, is “omniscient”, “all knowing”. Man is not. Our universe is so vast that even with our most powerful telescopes we cannot count the billions of galaxies that God has created. God, by contrast, calls every star by name (Ps. 147:4). God is so interested in all the creatures of earth that He brought them to Adam to be named (Gen. 1:19 - 20). God, of course, has a special interest in man for we were created in His image. God not only has a plan for our lives but sometimes even named people before they were born. This was true of Ishmael (Gen. 16:11); Isaac (Gen. 17:19); Cyrus (Is. 44:28); Maher-shalal-hashbaz (Isa 8:3); Jezreel (Hos. 1:4); Loammi (Hos. 1:9); John the Baptist (Lk., 1:13); Jesus (Matt. 1:21); etc. Not one sparrow can fall to the ground without His knowledge and even the very hairs of our head are numbered (Matt. 10:29 - 30). Of course God knows who we are, it would be ridiculous to think otherwise.

GOD HAS CHOSEN TO WORK WITH MAN

God made man lower than the angels (Ps. 8:5). Angels are greater than man in power and might (2 Pet. 2:11) In spite of this, God has made a deliberate decision to work with man. (1 Cor. 3:9). Even more incredible is that God has chosen us to be His bride. Out of all the creatures He has created, or could create, He has loved us and chosen us to be with Him forever.

GOD ALSO CHOOSES PARENTS

Before Jesus was born God chose Joseph and Mary to be His parents. Before John the Baptist was born God chose Zacharias and Elizabeth to be his parents. Before Samson was born God chose Manoah and his wife to be his parents. Before Isaac was born God chose Abraham and Sarah to be his parents. Before Jacob was born God chose Isaac and Rebecca to be his parents. Sometimes we may resent the parents that God has given us. The children of Israel, for example, seemed to resent their father. Among other things they resented the favoritism he showed to Joseph. It was, as we would say today, a dysfunctional family. Yet that family was chosen by God to bring children into the world and so was ours.

GOD SETS PEOPLE APART TO DO SPECIAL WORK

- Before Jeremiah was born God set him apart to be a prophet to the nations (Jer. 1:5)
- Generations before Cyrus was born God determined that he would rebuild Jerusalem (Is. 44:28).
- Before Samson was born God determined that he would deliver Israel from the Philistines (Judges 13:5).
- Before John the Baptist was born God determined that he would go forth in the spirit and power of Elijah and prepare the way for Jesus (Lk. 1:17). God knew that John the Baptist would be born hundreds of years before it came to pass (Mal. 4:5 - 6).
- Before Jesus was born God determined that He would save the people from their sins (Matt. 1:21).
- Paul was set apart from his mother’s womb to be an apostle to the gentiles (Gal. 1:15).
- Is it not exciting to realize that God has a special work for us to do, and that He is capable of orchestrating everything that has happened to us to bring glory to Him.

GOD PUTS MEMBERS INTO HIS BODY (1 Cor. 12:13)

The church is the Body of Christ and every member has been given a special work to do. Just as each of us has one body with many members, and each member has a different function, so also is the Body of Christ (Rom. 12:4, 5). Each Christian has a “gift” given to them by the Holy Spirit (Rom. 12:6). The Bible word translated as “gift” is “charisma”. The root of this word is “chara” which means “joy”. When you discover and use your spiritual gift, you will not only experience joy, but you will help make an increase of the Body unto the building up of itself in love (Eph. 4:16). **YES! GOD DOES INDEED HAVE A WONDERFUL PLAN FOR OUR LIVES!**