

The Eternal Plan

Lesson #2
12/12/18

We are continuing to look at God's Eternal Plan to save man. As stated before in last weeks class, we will borrowing info from three sources, The Scarlet Thread written by Max Johnson, His Eternal Plan by Jerry Tallman and of course the Bible. I mentioned last week that possibly Tallman's book would be available at OVU Bookstore; it is not! You may have to run down copies of it on Amazon or elsewhere.

A Brief Review

- We discussed how the Bible is covered through fifteen periods.

Go to next slide and read the fifteen periods.

Bible Periods

- The Antediluvian
- The Postdiluvian
- The Patriarchal
- Egyptian Bondage
- Wilderness Wanderings
- Conquest of Canaan
- The Judges
- The United Kingdoms
- The Divided Kingdoms
- The Kingdom of Judah
- The Babylonian Captivity
- The Return of the Exiles
- Between the Testaments
- The Life of Christ
- The Church of Christ

(Read them).

I do not intend to look at the details for each and every period. However, we will be looking the major details while we keep our eyes open for God's reminder of His Eternal Plan. Believe or not, all of the above will be covered on our diagram (cross in center of page paper).

So, let's begin to talk about God's Eternal Plan as it relates to all fifteen periods of the Bible and us.

First, what is your understanding of that phrase, "God's Eternal Plan?" In other words, why is it suggested that God had an eternal plan? What does that mean?

A Brief Review

- We discussed how the Bible is covered through fifteen periods.
- We covered God's promise to redeem mankind from 1Pt.2:17-25.
- We looked at a diagram entitled "God's Eternal Plan".

Bullet 1: Go to next slide and read the fifteen periods.

Bullet 2: We discussed God's plan to redeem man. This plan was in place before the foundation of the world.

Bullet 3: We looked at the diagram "God's Eternal Plan" (go to it).

God's Eternal Plan

God's Eternal Plan (1Pt.1:20)



CREATION

JUDGMENT

A Brief Review

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- We covered God's promise to redeem mankind from 1Pt.2:17-25.
- We looked at a diagram entitled "God's Eternal Plan".
- We Discussed the events from the Antediluvian Period of the Bible

Bullet 1: Go to next slide and read the fifteen periods.

Bullet 2: We discussed God's plan to redeem man. This plan was in place before the foundation of the world.

Bullet 3: We looked at the diagram "God's Eternal Plan" (go to it).

Bullet 4: We discussed the events form the Antediluvian Period of the Bible.

Antediluvian Period

- From Creation to the Flood
- Covers Gen.1 to Gen.5
 - Creation in seven days
 - The Story of Eden
 - Cain and Abel
 - The Genealogy: Adam to Noah
 - The Promised Seed (Gen.3:15)

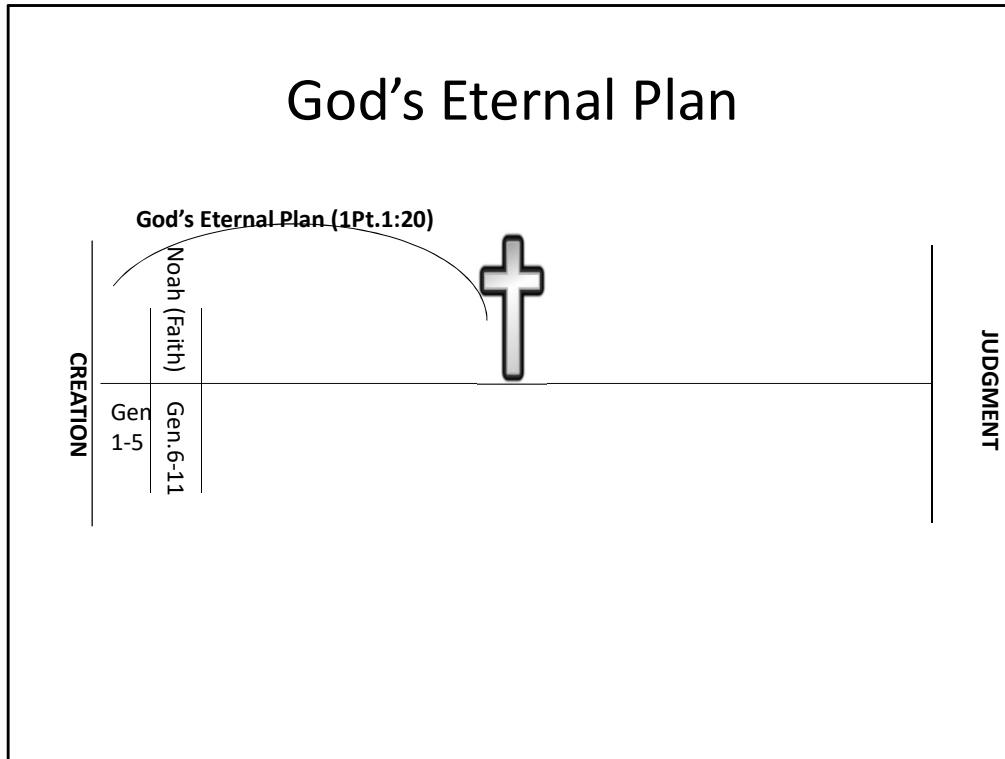
The word Antediluvian means before the flood. As we look at each of these periods, I want to remind you of God's grand scheme of redemption and let's look and see if God provides us with any hint of Him working His plan.

(Show first two bullets and tell the Antediluvian Story)

So where in all of this do you see God reminding us of His Eternal Plan? (Gen.3:15).

The next Period is called the Postdiluvian Period and it covers a span from Gen.6-11. Please remember what we are looking for. We are looking for something in each of these periods where God reveals His plan to save man. It could be a passage. It could be a symbol (hint, hint).

Hopefully you still have your sheets of paper with the eternal plan diagram (lets get it out).



Show the new diagram.

Now lets talk about Gen.6-11.

Genesis 5 is a transition and it sets up for the events about to transpire in Gen. 6. In Gen 5 we see the descendents of Adam and Eve. In particular, we see the lineages of Cain and Seth. What I find interesting is that when we are looking at the descendants of Cain, we see a lot of interesting characters when we look at Cain's lineage. Some were industrious and others were creative. But one of things that I find interesting was we are introduced to polygamy for the very first time (Gen.4:19). We also see murder by a great, great, great grandson Lamech (Gen.4:23). But one of the things that isn't mentioned in Cain's lineage was the fact that these people revered and feared God.

It wasn't until we are introduced to Seth that men began to call on the name of the Lord (Gn.4:26). From this lineage we are eventually introduced to a very famous boat builder, his name is Noah.

For the record, the Postdiluvian Period begins with the flood and lasts until the call of Abraham. The word "postdiluvian" means after the flood.

So lets discuss this period.

Turn to Gen.6:1-8. What do you see? 1. Sons of God married the daughters of men. That's an

interesting passage. Earlier we pointed the differences between the offspring of Cain vs. the offspring of Seth. What was the noticeable difference? Ungodly heritage vs. a godly heritage. I would submit to you that we see a union being forged. What did this lead to? Sin! 2. Sin became so prominent that God put man on notice. You have 120 years until the reset button is pushed. Imagine how awful this was not only for mankind, but for God (Gen.6:6). Even knowing what man was going to do, it didn't lessen the pain that God felt when man chose to sin. 3. Noah enters into the picture (6:9). Let's consider the "Story of the Flood".

The Story of the Great Flood:

1. God announced he was going to destroy mankind (Gn.6:7).
2. Noah found favor with God b/c had a relationship with God (Gn.6:9).
3. God commanded Noah to build an ark 450 ft long, 45 high, 75 ft wide (Gn.6:15).
4. God gave Noah specific dimensions and types of materials to use when constructing the ark (Gn.6:14-16).
5. God gave specific instructions on what types of animals were to be on the ark (Gn.6:19-21; 7:2-5).
6. Noah had faith in God and did as God commanded him to do (Gn.6:22; Heb.11:7).
7. Noah was a preacher of righteousness, but no one was listening to him except his family (2Pt.2:5).
8. The heavens open and the rain began to fall in the 600 year of Noah's life, the second month, and seventeenth day for forty days and night (Gn.7:11-12).
9. The ark rested on mountains of Ararat, Noah and his family exited the ark on the second month, the twenty seventh day of that month totaling approximately 371 days (Gn.7-8).
10. God made a covenant with man vowing to never again destroy the earth via a flood. The sign of the covenant was a rainbow (Gn.9:12-17).
11. Noah's family repopulates the earth (Gn.9-10).
12. Diverse languages come into existence as a result of man's pride. This event is known as the "Tower of Babel" (Gn.11).

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(Go through points and briefly discuss).

Lets take a step back and consider Noah vs. the rest of mankind (next slide).

A Comparison between Noah and the rest of the World

Noah

- He found favor or grace with God (Gn.12:8)
- He was just (Gn.12:9)
- He had faith in God (Hb.11:7a)
- He listened to God (Hb.11:7)
- He obeyed God (Hb.11:7b;Gn.6:22)
- Noah and his family were saved (1Pt.3:20)

The World

- Was out of favor with God (Gn.6:6)
- Thoughts were continuously evil (Gn.6:5)
- Evil thoughts gave birth to evil conduct (Gn.6:5a; Pv.23:7; Mt.15:18-20; Pv.4:23)
- The wicked perished (Gn.6:17;2Pt.2:5; Gn.7:21)

(Go through Chart by first looking at Noah, then look at the “The World”).

So allow me to ask you this question before we finish. Do you see anything in the passages that we look at tonight that would tip you off to the fact that God had a plan in place to redeem and rescue man from his sins?

God's Plan to Redeem Man in the Postdiluvian Period

- The ark has often times been viewed as a type, or figure of the church to which God adds souls via the blood of Christ.
- Gen.7:1 who can fail to see the similarity between the ark and the church?
- 2Pt.3:20-21 Peter specifically references images of salvation by way of water and the ark.

(Share points and discuss).

The next period we will look at is the Patriarchal Period and it covers Gen.12-45.