
proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners,

² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, ³ and provide for those who grieve in Zion— to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.

John 10:10 "The thief (Satan) comes only to steal, kill and destroy. I came that they might have life, life in its abundance."

God's remedy

1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrated His own love for us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

*2 Corinthians 5:14 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.
¹⁵ And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.*

Key: Page 1: redemption;

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To Serve His Purposes – part 1

Joining God's Team – part 9

March 3, 2024

Life vision statement: By God's grace, to step forward, as God's man or woman, in my spheres of influence, **to serve His purposes**, for His glory.

God's primary purpose: the redemption of lost humanity

What are God's purposes?

- Rescue and recovery,
- Redemption
- Re-gaining real life—full, abundant, eternal
- Making all things new

Revelation 21:5 He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!"

Redemption:

"Lutron" –

Mark 10:45 For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.

"Agorazein" -

1 Corinthians 6:19 You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

Hebrews 9:12 He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.

Colossians 1:13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Revelation 5:9 And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation.

Fallen human nature: how the world fell

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so.³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Genesis 2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden;¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die."

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

Genesis 3:4 "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman.⁵ "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Genesis 3:6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it.

The fallen world: We disconnect our self from His centrality in our heart

Romans 1:21 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.²² Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

Romans 1:24 Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts ...²⁵ They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator...

²⁶ Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts.

²⁸ Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done.

Re-gaining real life—the necessity of God

Titus 3:3 At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared,⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.

Isaiah 61:1 The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to
