



Churches Of God Outreach Ministries
People working together to proclaim the Gospel

"The Churches of God Outreach Ministries provides leadership, information, and biblical teaching in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Matthew 28:19-20"

1-800-611-8080 / www.cgom.org
PO Box 54621, Tulsa, OK 74155-0621

Does God Have A Plan For All Of Mankind?

Do you believe in God? If you do, do you believe in creation by God and not in evolution? Do you believe that "human beings" are the most important creation of God's Creation? Do you accept the Holy Scriptures as the inspired word of God?

By Bill Fowler

When Jesus was being tempted, Satan said to Him; If You are the Son of God, command these stones to be turned to bread. Jesus answered Him by quoting scripture; **Deut. 8:3** "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God". From this scripture we learn that the most important part of God's plan for mankind is that we do what He tells us to do. God's plan is that all people on the earth will live in peace and joy with one another, but it will only come to pass when all people choose to live by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.

If we say that we believe God and the Bible, then we must show our faith and belief by living by the scriptures and not by the traditions of men. The content of the Bible is about the relationship between God and mankind. Satan wants to destroy that relationship, started when God created Adam and Eve. God had a purpose and a plan for mankind, from the beginning, that they didn't understand. This article is only a summary of His plan, please request the complete booklet that is available for you to receive.

A Very Special Creation

Gen 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." **v.27** "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created

them." **v.28** "Then God blessed them, and God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Created In God's Image

We see from the preceding scriptures, that God created human beings in the image and likeness of God and to rule over all other creatures on the earth. The word image has the meaning of illusion or resemblance. The word likeness has more of the meaning of nature or attitude, our character, rather than shape or form.

God created mankind from the dust of the earth. Man resembles God in both form and intellect, but He did not give to mankind HIS Perfect Godly Character. Character, righteousness and love are not created, but are developed over a period of time by making choices, both good and bad.

God created mankind to rule over the earth, to populate it and preserve it for abundant life. God gave to mankind a perfect environment in which to live. He gave Perfect laws. He gave instructions of the way to live and reap the blessings of living God's way. He gave man a mind that had the free will to obey or disobey. If we teach our children to obey and love God's principles of life they can enjoy life and prosper. We all have to learn from experience just like Adam and Eve and their descendants.

Mankind was created physical, subject to making

Does God Have A Plan For All Mankind?

choices God would not make. God calls those wrong choices sin. Sin is falling short of the perfectness of our Heavenly Father and our Savior, Jesus Christ. God knew we could sin, and the penalty for sinning would be death.

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. God's plan is to give eternal life to those that will hear and do the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Rom 8:6-9 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. **v.7** Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. **v.8** So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. **v.9** But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

Does Almighty God see you in the flesh? We were born with a carnal (human) mind, we were born with human nature, in God's image and likeness, but not with a spiritual mind having perfect judgment and reasoning. Mankind was created in God's image and likeness because He has a purpose and a plan to give to mankind, eternal life.

In the scriptures in your Bible is God's plan for you to have eternal life. You cannot earn it, but you must make the choice to have Eternal Life. You must respond to God in Spirit and Truth as He calls you according to His Holy Scriptures!

John 4:23 "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him." (Are there false worshipers of God?)

Rom 2:4 Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?

His Plan For New Life

God's purpose and plan for mankind is for us to have eternal life with Him. Jesus said in **John 3:7** "Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again'". Also in **John 6:44** read what He says; **John 6:44** "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day."

We Must Be Able To Hear

John 3:1 There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. **v.2** This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with Him." **v.3** Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." **v.4** Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" **v.5** Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." **v.6** "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." **v.7** "Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'" **v.8** "The wind blows where it wished, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

We Must Believe

Human beings did not evolve, they were created of flesh to learn right from wrong. We are called by God the Father to be a disciple of Christ. When the person responds to the truth of the scriptures and God gives His Holy Spirit that person can be born again in the resurrection, fulfilling God's plan.

God's Children

1 John 3:1 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Does your mind "see" what this scripture says? When Jesus leaves the throne of God the Father, to come to this earth to reign as King of Kings at the last trump, those that God has called and led to repentance, Shall Be Like Him! Born Again! Take your BIBLE...and read the 15th chapter of 1st Corinthian, be sure to notice the following verses.

1 Cor 15:42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. **v.43** It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. **v.44** It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

We are still in our natural body, but in the Kingdom of God, after the resurrection we will be in a Spiritual

body.

God's Holy Sabbath Days

1 Cor 15:50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. **v.51** Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not sleep, but we shall all be changed; **v.52** in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. **v.53** For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. **v.54** So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "*Death is swallowed up in victory.*"

Don't You Want To Be Part Of His Plan Now?

To have eternal life at the return of Christ we have to do what He tells us to do in the scriptures. Here is His instruction. **Mat 19:16** Now behold, one came and said to Him, "*Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?*" **v.17** so He said to him, "*Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.*"

Today as disciples of Jesus Christ, we are to be "commandment keepers". We are saved by Grace (God's Mercy), for all have sinned. When we turn from sin and by the power of God's Holy Spirit we start keeping the law of GOD (love) then He graciously forgives us. **Acts 5:32** "*And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him.*" Both the Old and the New testaments teach that we should willingly, by the Holy Spirit, obey the 10 Commandments, God's laws of Love.

A very important part of the Bible are the teachings of God's Holy Days that are given in the 23rd chapter of the book of Leviticus.

Lev 23:1 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, **Lev 23:2** "*Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them; 'The feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be Holy convocation, these are My feasts.'*"

The Bible Holy Days are God's Feast days. They were first given to the 12 tribes of Israel to show all nations how to love and worship God. Jesus kept the Holy days and taught the disciples to keep them. The apostles Paul and the early Christians kept them. Read **Acts 18:21, Acts 20:6, 1 Corinthians Chap.5: v.6,7,8.** His Holy Days will be kept in the Kingdom of God on this earth. **Zechariah 14:16** All of the Holy days show salvation through Jesus Christ.

The weekly Seventh day Sabbath

The Annual Sabbaths

Passover and the 7 Days of Unleavened Bread
Pentecost
The Feast of Trumpets
The Day of Atonement
The Feast of Tabernacles and The Last Great Day

God's plan is for you, today and Eternally. He wants you to be in His family forever. His purpose and plan is for each of us, but we must choose to be like Him, living by His laws of love.

Published by:
The Churches of God Outreach Ministries
PO Box 54621
Tulsa, OK 74155-0621
©2002 The Churches of God Outreach Ministries
www.cgom.org

This article may be freely copied and distributed as long as it is done in its entirety, including this notice, and is given away free, without any charge to the recipient.

Write us for a free catalog of other free articles we have to offer.