

No Eye Has Seen

Bible Study | Church of God International, Philippines |
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Summary



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1 Corinthians 2:9

“No eye has seen, nor ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him.”



This is not an ordinary statement coming from Apostle Paul – it is loaded and packed with a powerful punch. It suggests that the world has no inkling, no clue, nor any idea of what God has prepared for humanity; especially for those who love Him.



God's plan for you is so marvelous, precious, and intimate that it is difficult for the human mind to understand.



It is so grand, mysterious, and unbelievable that no one can contemplate it.



This amazing and incredible truth has not been properly preached to Christians. Paul himself, despite all his education, didn't come to understand this wonderful truth immediately. God revealed it to him, that's why he is in the best position to share it with us today.



His statement in 1 Corinthians 2:9 is as true today as when it was spoken 2,700 years ago. Despite 2000 years of intense and scholarly study of the bible, most professing Christians still do not completely understand it.



Most are unfamiliar with God's magnificent plan for those who love Him. In 2 Timothy 3:7 Paul described them as "Ever learning but never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."



Today, please follow us in this exciting Bible study on this marvelous plan of God as taught by Christ and expounded further by the Apostle Paul.



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Life's great questions

What is life? Why were we created? What is God's purpose for mankind?



God has a great and marvelous plan for His creation.
This physical existence called life is mysterious to many. But Jesus has revealed great insights into the meaning of life.



Paul wrote about this majestic truth 2,000 years ago.
Yet, this truth has not been perceived by many.



Mankind is completely blinded by his own human nature; blinded by the cares of this world; by maintaining the pride, arrogance and rebelliousness of the human heart; and finally by being deceived by the prince of the power of the air (Ephesians 2:2).



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 fools

23 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 to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another.

25 They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.



There is a veil that covers the truth. The veil needs to be removed.



2 Corinthians 3

12 Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold.

13 We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away.



2 Corinthians 3

14 But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away.

15 Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts.

16 But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.



2 Corinthians 3

17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

18 And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.



This blindness can be taken away only by the indwelling power of God's Holy Spirit – the Spirit of Truth that reveal the things about God.



1 Corinthians 2

1 And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God.

2 For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.



1 Corinthians 2

3 I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling.

4 My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power,

5 so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.



1 Corinthians 2

6 We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing.

7 No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began.



1 Corinthians 2

8 None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

9 However, as it is written: “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived” — the things God has prepared for those who love him—



1 Corinthians 2

10 these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

11 For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.



1 Corinthians 2

12 What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us.

13 This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words.



1 Corinthians 2

14 The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.



1 Corinthians 2

15 The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments,

16 for, “Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.



This truth, also called the mystery of salvation, are the stuff that even angels long to see.



1 Peter 1

10 Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care,

11 trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of the Messiah and the glories that would follow.



1 Peter 1

12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. **Even angels long to look into these things.**



This revealed message is the power of God to let His people understand what the wise of this world consider as a mystery.



1 Corinthians 1

18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

19 For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”



1 Corinthians 1

20 Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

21 For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.



This truth is exclusively revealed to the Saints.



Colossians 1

24 Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church.



Colossians 1

25 I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness—

26 the **mystery that has been kept hidden** for ages and generations, but is **now disclosed to the Lord's people.**



Mystery Revealed

There is an interesting discussion Jesus had with the Pharisees. There is great possibility Paul was there. If indeed he was there, Paul couldn't believe what he heard and could have also contemplated to stone Jesus. In this discussion Jesus revealed a mystery. Instead of embracing the truth with gladness the Jews rejected the concept and wanted to stone Jesus. The incident is recorded in John 10:22-36.



John 10

22 Then came the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter,

23 and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade.

24 The Jews who were there gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."



John 10

25 Jesus answered, “I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father’s name testify about me,

26 but you do not believe because you are not my sheep.

27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.



John 10

28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.

29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.

30 I and the Father are one.”



John 10

31 Again his Jewish opponents picked up stones to stone him,

32 but Jesus said to them, “I have shown you many good works from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?”

33 “We are not stoning you for any good work,” they replied, “but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, **claim to be God.**”



John 10

34 Jesus answered them, “Is it not written in your Law, ‘I have said **you are “gods”**’?”

35 If he called them ‘gods,’ to whom the **word of God came**—and **Scripture cannot be set aside**—

36 what about the one whom the Father set apart as his very own and sent into the world? Why then do you **accuse me of blasphemy** because I said, ‘**I am God’s Son**’?”



In this account, Jesus claimed that He is the Son of God -- making Himself equal with God. The Jews wanted to stone Jesus for blasphemy. Then, to everyone's surprise, Jesus proceeded to tell them they are "gods," so they wanted to stone him even more.



Jesus told them they are gods! Definitely, Jesus was not playing words in order to escape from the angry Jews who already considered Him blasphemous.



Was Jesus referring to “gods” as human rulers? No, Jesus was not misleading them or making up excuses. Jesus meant what He said; “You are gods!” This was a straightforward, direct, honest and candid statement. It is a great revelation of the destiny of man.



The context is clear if we relate this incident to the prayer Jesus taught at the Sermon on the Mount when He addressed God as our Father in heaven.



The familial relationship of father and son is obvious, yet unheard of until Jesus introduced the relationship. To the Jews calling God as “abba” father was inconceivable. It is automatically equated with blasphemy. Yet, Jesus revealed the father and son relationship in the Sermon on the Mount with the famous prayer; “**Our Father** who are in heaven.”



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Then came Paul the Pharisee. He heard all these and considered Jesus a hoax. But meeting the risen Christ in person changed his entire being.



He witnessed the resurrection of Jesus to eternal glory. Paul demanded evidence and he got it. From being a persecutor of Christ and of the church, Paul became an avid follower of Christ and became one of the hardworking apostles.



Paul was a man of great learning and was well-versed in Judaism. He has a critical and inquisitive mind. Paul spent considerable time with Jesus Christ.



If you had three hours/days/months with Christ, what would you ask him? Paul spent 3 years with Jesus Christ. Can you imagine the extent of knowledge and truth Paul learned in all the years he was with Jesus and taught by Jesus Himself?



Paul talked about this account in his epistles. Let us
visit Galatians 1:11-12



Galatians 1

11 I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin.

12 I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.



2 Corinthians 12

1 I must go on boasting. Although there is nothing to be gained, I will go on to visions and revelations from the Lord.

2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know—God knows.



2 Corinthians 12

3 And I know that this man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows—

4 was caught up to paradise and **heard inexpressible things, things that no one is permitted to tell.**

5 I will boast about a man like that, but I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses.



2 Corinthians 12

6 Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say

7 or because of these **surpassingly great revelations.**



What is this truth that he saw with his eyes and heard with his ears that he has perceived with his mind that is so marvelous that he is passing on to us?



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The great mystery that has been hidden for ages is the Kingdom of God.

The realization is in the revelation of the Children of God in Galatians 4:1-7.



Galatians 4

1 What I am saying is that as long as an heir is underage, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate.

2 The heir is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father.

3 So also, when we were underage, we were in slavery under the elemental spiritual forces of the world.



Galatians 4

4 But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,
5 to redeem those under the law, that we might receive **adoption to sonship.**



Galatians 4

6 Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “**Abba, Father.**”

7 So you are no longer a slave, but **God’s child**; and since you are his child, God has made you also **an heir.**



Romans 8

14 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the **children of God**.

15 The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your **adoption to sonship**.
And by him we cry, "**Abba, Father**."



Romans 8

16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are **God's children**.

17 Now if we are children, then we **are heirs—heirs of God** and **co-heirs with Christ**, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in **his glory**.



Romans 8

18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the **glory** that will be **revealed** in us.

19 For the creation waits in eager expectation for the **children of God to be revealed**.



Romans 8

20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope

21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and **glory** of the **children of God**.



Romans 8

22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our **adoption to sonship**, the **redemption of our bodies**.

24 For in this **hope** we were **saved**.



The great mystery of salvation is the Kingdom of God
composed of God's Children. The future belongs to
God's very own children.



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Jesus spoke about a kingdom that is prepared for us since the creation of the world. Jesus' kingdom prophecy provides a unique insight into its composition – who will eventually inherit the kingdom.



Matthew 25:31-34

31 “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.

32 All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his sheep from the goats*.

33 *And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.*

34 *Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the **kingdom prepared for you** from the foundation of the world*



At the beginning of Jesus' ministry, Jesus preached that the Kingdom is at hand. Matthew 4:17 "From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Kingdom is at hand means it has started.



Luke 16:16 **16** “The law and the prophets *were until John. Since that time the **kingdom of God** has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it..* “

The reason for people pressing into it was that Christ opened the door to the kingdom by His redemptive sacrifice. Now, mankind has access to eternal salvation and become part of the kingdom of God. People are streaming into it – meaning people are getting saved.



The Kingdom of God is a kingdom composed of God-like beings with God as our Father, Jesus Christ as our brother and the saints as brothers and sisters in the divine family. As Peter boldly declares that the saved will participate in the divine nature.



2 Peter 1:3-4, His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be **partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*



At creation we know that we are fashioned in the image and likeness of God. Notice how God describes the creation; 'everything after its own kind.' The vegetation after it's own kind, the fowl of the air, the fishes of the sea, the livestock and cattle all after its own kind. But, man is created after the God kind. .



Genesis 1:26-27

- 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.”
- 27 So God created man in His **own image**; in the **image of God** He created him; male and female He created them.



The image and likeness of God suggest the potential of man to be like God. At the end of our spiritual creation, indeed, we shall be like Him. 1 Corinthians 15:50-54 talks about change of nature from physical to spiritual, from corruption to perfection and from mortality to immortality



1 Corinthians 15:50-53

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot **inherit the kingdom of God**; nor does corruption inherit incorruption.

51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—

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.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must put on **immortality***.



Boldly Paul declares that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God. In the final reality as described in Revelation 21:5-7, we shall become children of God.



Revelation 21:5-7

5 Then He who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” And He said to me, “Write, for these words are true and faithful.”

6 And He said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.

7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.



What then is the Kingdom of God?

We are familiar with the animal kingdom, the human kingdom, the angelic kingdom and Jesus said there is a Kingdom of God



God Kingdom

Angelic Kingdom

Human Kingdom

Animal Kingdom



The Kingdom of God is the kingdom that is composed of God-like beings. These God-like beings are beings of light and are positioned higher than the angels.



Hebrews 2

5 It is **not to angels** that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking.

6 But there is a place where someone has testified:
“What is **mankind** that you are mindful of them, a son of man that you care for him?”



Hebrews 2

7 You made them a little lower than the **angels**;
you **crowned** them **with glory and
honor**

8 and put everything under their feet.” In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them.



Hebrews 2

9 But we do **see Jesus**, who was made **lower than the angels** for a little while, now **crowned with glory and honor** because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.



Hebrews 2

10 In bringing many **sons** and **daughters** to **glory**, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered.

11 Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of **the same family**. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters.



The Kingdom of God is the Divine Family of God that you can become a member of. That is the kingdom message of Jesus Christ.



What a marvelous, exciting revelation!
In His own words to the disciples, Jesus said in
Matthew 13:11-17.



Matthew 13

11 He replied, “Because the knowledge of the secrets of the **kingdom of heaven** has been given to you, but not to them.

12 Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.



Matthew 13

13 This is why I speak to them in parables: “Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand.

14 In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: “ ‘You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.



Matthew 13

15 For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.'



Matthew 13

16 But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear.

17 For truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.



This is the greatest message of hope that
Jesus preached when He was on earth.



This HOPE is the message Jesus brought and preached to the world



Luke 8:1

Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, **proclaiming the good news** of the **kingdom of God.**



Acts 28:31

He (Paul) proclaimed the **kingdom of God** and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance!



Paul proclaimed it with all boldness.
And, we too proclaim it to you...



1 John 3

3 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.**



1 John 3

2 Beloved, now **we are children of God**; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, **we shall be like Him**, for **we shall see Him as He is**.



1 John 3

3 And everyone who has **this hope in Him purifies** himself, just as He is pure.



Now, your eyes have seen and your ears have
heard what God has prepared for those who
love Him



May this gospel of the Kingdom of God inspire
you to walk humbly with the Lord



END

