James #72

Entrance into the plan of God is based on grace.

Please be prepared to do the Lord’s Supper at the end of the message.

Pick it back up in 1John chapter 3 RF, right where we left off.

Our current study is going to take us into deeper principles related to God’s divine decree, leading into the perfect grace plan of God for all mankind.

In eternity past God calculated every detail, every hair on your head, every choice, negative or positive and all actions and reactions along with so many details it staggers the mind! In that calculation of every detail, HE developed a perfect plan.

That plan is from HIS gracious, abundant nature, yet it still needed to process and pass the legal requirements of HIS justice and righteousness. Then it was precisely calculated into a Divine Decree that locked it into eternal law for all time as we know it.

/Entrance into the plan of God is based on grace whereby the sovereignty of God and the free will of man meet at the cross — and they meet without any merit on man’s part. Man is never benefited under God’s plan by his own effort, his works, his thoughts, or his power or plans. Man is blessed on the basis of who and what God is and what God has provided through HIS perfect, grace plan.\

The three letters written by John 1-2-3…to several congregations, that the Apostle John was overseeing were written specifically for Believers.

The focus was to guide them back on track from the lies and counterfeits of the Gnostic movement. Which by 85 or 90 AD, had picked up great momentum.

The Apostle John begins by reminding them they are children and students inside the plan of God the Father.

/1Jhn 3:1 **See how great a love the Father has given us, that we would be called children of God**; and *in fact* we are. For this reason the world does not know us: because it did not know Him.\

He goes on to remind them to watch their lifestyle choices, that many fall away and walk as the Unbelievers do, they practice a lifestyle of sin.

Also, that these Gnostic leaders were putting into question the doctrine of Hypostatic Union, the resurrection and many aspects of the plan of God surrounding mystery doctrine of the Church Age.

Now pick it up where we left off;

/1Jhn 3:9 **No one who has been born of God practices sin, because His seed remains in him**; and he cannot sin *continually,* because he has been born of God.

The Believer is born again into a new nature that is born out of the righteousness of Christ.\

Just as at physical birth a seed is planted that grows into a new person. That baby is given a breath of life - soul life at birth, they continue to grow up, it is the same analogy for a spiritual lifestyle.

The baptism of the HS at salvation is a new breath of life for that person.

We must grow into spiritual maturity.

Whenever we sin it is a choice to step back into the flesh…to accept the devil’s world as your path and your purpose.

/ The OSN is Satan’s inside agent for temptation. The OSN is not the source of sin, it is only the source of temptation. Your volition then becomes involved at the point of temptation. Sins of ignorance or arrogance, knowing or unknowingly entering into sin from a fleeting thought (temptation), then into the act itself is an issue of free will decisions.\

As you know, the OSN resides in the cell structure of the body, so the very author of temptation is the OSN in our biological make-up.

Satan is a tickler and tormentor of that OSN, his cosmic system has ideologies designed for the art of seduction, temptation and deception.

/The volition or free will of man resides in the human soul and guards the soul from temptation—which means no human being ever sins apart from his own free will or human consent. The OSN is the origin of temptation, yet it always falls upon freedom of choice for the trigger mechanism, to nurture and develop or act upon temptation. That is how sin is born! \

So, sin is always a doorway into becoming a pawn of Satan.

Satan and his army thrive on the flesh, they wither against the power of the Holy Spirit.

 REPEAT

The famous British, Baptist preacher most of you recognize, wrote many a great statement on this subject matter of sin;

/ *If you dare to say you are trusting in the atonement while you live in sin, you lie, sir; you do not trust in the atonement; for where there is a real faith in the atoning sacrifice, it purifies the man, and makes him hate the sin which shed the Redeemer’s blood.*

 *Charles Spurgeon* \

If a so-called Christian, can live a lifestyle opposed to the word of God, walking almost daily in a sinful nature with no remorse. Yet just the opposite, happily living in sin habitually, then they are either an Unbel who has given lip-service to their Christianity.

Or they are a Believer walking in apostasy headed for discipline or even the sin unto death.

 REPEAT

There is no middle ground!

In fact, I would argue one of the true signs of spiritual maturity, is that you can never walk long periods of time in sin without recognizing it and bouncing back into your new nature.

Part of the battlefield and spiritual combat you engage in everyday revolves around your thoughts, your decisions and finally your actions.

[/1Jo 3:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1jo/3/10/s_1162010) By **this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious**: anyone who does not **practice righteousness** is not of God, nor the one who **does not love** his brother *and sister.*

Gen 3:15 **And I will make enemies Of you and the woman, And of your offspring and her Descendant;** He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise Him on the heel.” \

This aligns with the original proclamation in the Garden of the seed war which points us to why we were created – the Angelic Conflict.

There is no need for a Divine decree, a grace plan of God without recognizing this!

Gen 3:15 speaks to the point of contact, the first shot fired…the ignition point!

/Until the Christian grows up into accurate theology of the angelic rebellion they may never fully grasp the plan of God. Confusion and frustration will infiltrate most of their spiritual concepts. Humanity was the second creation of a lower design, yet both angels and humans were created with free will. God knew rebellion, sin and evil would occur outside of HIS perfection. Yet HE ALLOWED this (permissive will) for the sake of legal proof, once and for all time, that without HIS full authority there is no perfection or peace.\

This is what has been playing out for millions of years.

There is a definitive and legal process, and a definitive and legal end coming very soon.

God knew a battle of epic proportions needed to happen and it had to play out under circumstances that would stand firm under HIS own justice system. Meaning both parties had all legal and procedural details available to them.

/Gen 3:15 *And I will make enemies Of you and the woman, And of your offspring and her Descendant;*

*Between your seed (zeraʿ) and her seed (zeraʿ)* – speaks to offspring, a fertile seed for childbirth, children or a harvest.\

The original Hebrew context makes it very clear there were offspring coming from both sides that would fill this battlefield.

ZEE-RAH, means a new birth or a child, or even the fertile seed to make a child, a harvest is also seen in this Hebrew term.

/Satan in his arrogance even brought forth physical seeds we know as the Nephilim (Gen 6:1 thru 5). If God had not used HIS overriding will (flood), we would have been overpopulated by them. Yet I believe, there is a remnant of Nephilim bloodline still traceable in a very small group of families who may sit at the highest levels of power of this temporal world. \

There are those who still tap into many dark, satanic practices to maintain power and longevity.

There are also Unbels, who will never turn to Christ - so this is a very real battlefield we live on each and every day.

 REPEAT

The whole reason for the plan of GOD is this very battle we are all called into!

/1Jo 3:10 - *anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love (agapaō) his brother and sister.*

The only answer and victory are found in CHRIST – His righteousness and HIS love (virtue/godly), not emotionally dependent, personal love.\

Impersonal, unconditional virtue love.

AUG-AH-POT-O, is in the form of a verb, in the Greek present tense, something related to an action we keep on applying in our life.

To walk in the SPIRIT - is to walk in your union with Christ.

This is beyond rebound.

Naming and citing a known sin, is a washing process, you have to walk after the washing process.

/Righteousness and love are both in the nature of Jesus. He was both righteous, and completely loving. They are not separate actions or separate items on a menu. Most people mistake righteousness for religion and love for affectionate compassion that bends, or conforms to please everyone all the time. Real Divine Righteousness and Justice are a display of Godly love.\

They go hand in hand.

When someone is living in sin and you go along and get along, to show them you love them you have just rejected the principle of righteousness. Just as when you drop the cold, hard hammer of justice upon someone who sinned and failed, you have just rejected the principle of Virtue Love.

There is a balance. REPEAT

In our day and age, we have lost the art of agreeing to disagree with people. There is a loving way to disagree with someone living in sin.

Think about how our Lord spoke to the Samarian woman at the well, the one with several husbands. Or how Nathan used a story about poor man’s lamb in 2Samuel 12, to awaken David to his sin with Bathsheba.

Jesus Christ never approved of sin yet HE never became self-righteous and judgmental in HIS approach to helping guide people out of sin.

In God’s perfect plan we have the means to be cleansed of sin, starting at salvation and then walking in union with Christ daily.

/Rom 3:23 or all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus,\

God’s plan is abundant grace, it is spiritual power found IN HIM.

It is not power and rituals found in the flesh. As we get ready to partake in the Lord’s Supper let us remember the precious work of Jesus Christ, the very center and foundation of the plan of God the Father.

Your victory for eternal salvation is found in Christ. Your day-to-day victories in this spiritual warfare is found in Christ.

There is no spirit of fear and timidity in Christ!

/Jhn 13:10 Jesus said to him, “**He who has bathed needs only to wash his feet**; otherwise he is completely clean. And you are clean—but not all *of you.*”

1Jhn 1:9 **If we confess our sins**, He is faithful and righteous, so that He will forgive us our sins and **cleanse us from all unrighteousness**.\

What more do we need then our relationship with The Lord and savior Jesus Christ?

Let me close today reading from the Apostle Paul in Ephesians, and then in 1Corinthians chapter 11 to bring HIM into remembrance.

Eph 2:4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our wrongdoings, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

The perfect plan of God the Father was built upon the impeccable Lamb of GOD, the precious SON.

[Eph 2:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/2/6/s_1099006) and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, 7so that in the ages to come He might show the boundless riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

IN CHRIST JESUS! All victories and answers are found in HIM.

[Eph 2:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/2/8/s_1099008) For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this *is* not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; 9not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Let us bring our LORD into remembrance;

1Cor 11:23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread;

[1Co 11:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/11/24/s_1073024) and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”

In remembrance of our LORD let us eat the bread.

[1Co 11:25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/11/25/s_1073025) In the same way HE also *took* the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink *it,* in remembrance of Me.” 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

In remembrance of our LORD,

Let us drink the cup.

Let us pray…amen.