

Redemption Through the Scriptures

Gaining a Clearer Picture of Christ
and His Saving Work

#13 Desire for a Loving Relationship

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The Pleasure of God's Redemptive Plan (11-14)

The
Program

The
Purchase

The
Pleasure



"I want that!"

"I'll pay for that!"

"I'll enjoy that!"

The Pleasure (11-14)

God's plan is fulfilled
in the church.

The Pleasure of God's Redemptive Plan (11-14)

#11 Delight in Joint Service

#12 Determined to Share His Holiness

#13 Desire for a Loving Relationship

#14 Deeper Fellowship with our Lord

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Delightful Relationships

God desires us to love Him and have a joyful relationship with Him, enriched with the fruits of peace, joy, and love (1 Thess 5:18).

"No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you" (John 15:16).



God

Others

As God restores our relationship with Him, we then desire to restore our relations with others.

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Created to Share God's Image

"God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them" (Genesis 1:27).

- Made in God's image (Gen 1:27).
- Fall corrupted our holiness.
- Redemption restores holiness (a likeness) and a relationship with our Lord.

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God's Original Plan

- People were made for personal relationships.
- Multiply image-bearers across the earth.
- Evangelism flows from God's desire to share Himself.
- Salvation leads to sharing one's heart, mind, and love with God and others.
- Strong relationships thrive on a person's good character: honesty, love, kindness, compassion, and sincere concern.

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Relationships with God at the Start

- God and humans
- Headship requiring obedience
- Direction, requiring trust
- Clear communication requiring for us to listen
- Love, building up trust in our Provider

“This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh;
She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out
of Man” (Gen 2:23)

- ✦ What might seem to be a minor violation of God's rule had enormous ramifications.

Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. 6 And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. (Gen 6:5-6)

“Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” (John 3:3).



Spiritual Regeneration

- Spiritual circumcision, ““But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God” (Rom 2:29).
- “He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit” (Titus 3:5).



Redemption is the Starting Point

The beginning

- Redemption’s ultimate aim is not solely forgiveness or heaven, but rather the establishment and enrichment of relationships.
- Redemption’s brilliance is demonstrated on the cross, and its light guides us toward becoming more like Christ.
- Becoming more like Him on earth deepens our relationships with God and people.

“Christ in you, the hope of glory” (Col 1:27).





Reflections

- Describe the beginning of humanity according to God and explain how this fostered a close relationship with Him.
- What frustrated God’s plan?
- How did sending His Son make it possible to fulfill His original plan?
- What personal flaw contributes to your relationship challenges?



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