

God the Father's Plan

Part II

"Regeneration/Restoration"

The Creation-Ex-Nihilo

Genesis 1:1-2 (NIV)

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. [2] Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters...

Genesis 1:31-2:1 (NIV)

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning--the sixth day. 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

The Fall

Romans 8:22-23 (NIV)

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 as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

The Universal Consequences

Romans 8:18-21 (NIV)

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. [19] The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. [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 glorious freedom of the children of God.

Restoration of All Things

Matthew 19:28 (KJV)

And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the **regeneration** when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

- *paliggenesia, pal-ing-ghen-es-ee'-ah; from Greek 3825 (palin) and Greek 1078 (genesis); (spiritual) rebirth (the state or the act), i.e. (figurative) spiritual renovation; specially Messianic restoration :- regeneration.*

The Hope

Romans 8:24-25 (NIV)

For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? [25] But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

The Reward

Matthew 19:29-30 (NIV)

And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life. [30] But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first.

Persevere in Hope

Hebrews 10:34-36 (NIV)

You sympathized with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions.

[35] So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. [36] You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.

The Means

2 Cor. 5:13-15 (NIV)

If we are out of our mind, it is for the sake of God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. [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.

- *for*—means in stead of or in the place of.

Regeneration/Restoration

2 Cor. 5:17-19 (NIV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! [18] All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: [19] that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of **reconciliation**.

- Reconciliation = Restoration

Regeneration Man

Titus 3:5 (KJV)

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

The New Creation

Ephes. 1:9-10 (NIV)

And he (*The Father*) made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, [10] to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment--to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.

Restoration of All Things

Philip. 2:10 (NIV)

...that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

Col. 1:20 (NIV)

...and through him to reconcile to himself all things,
whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making
peace through his blood, shed on the cross.