

A view of Earth from space, showing the curvature of the planet and swirling cloud patterns. A bright light source, possibly the sun, is positioned behind a faint rainbow, creating a lens flare effect. The text "God's MASTER PLAN" is overlaid on the left side of the image.

God's MASTER PLAN

Week 2

What we will cover in 4 Weeks

Class 1:

What is God's Master Plan?
How God's Plan is Realized

Class 3:

What is the key to God's plan?
Who is the Master Planner?

Class 2:

Why do we need God's plan?
What Stops us from Participating?

Class 4:

How can we participate?
Being a Part of God's Plan

Overview - Section 3

Why do we need God's Master Plan?

- What is the origin of sin?
- What was the result of sin upon mankind?
- What is the destiny of man without the Master Plan?
- Is there any escape from this destiny?

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What is the origin of sin?

- Then God said 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness'
 - Genesis 1v26
- God saw all that he had made, and it was very good
 - Genesis 1v31
- What went wrong?
 - Genesis 3



What is the origin of sin?

Sin (disobedience to what God asked) first happened in the Garden

- Genesis 3

Why did Adam and Eve disobey?

- Genesis 3v6-7
 - “Good for food” - Desires of Flesh
 - “Pleasing to the eye” - Desires of Eyes
 - “Desirable for gaining wisdom” - Pride of Life



What is the effect of sin?

Mankind's Relationship with God changed

- Created a separation - Genesis 3v24
- God cannot live with Sin - Hab 1v13

We all have bodies that corrupt (age and die) and a mind prone to doing whatever we want.

Destiny of Man without God...

“The wages of sin is death...”

- Romans 6v23

Teaching: Death is the consequence of sin

Our [natural] destiny is the grave

Destiny of Man without God...

THE EQUATION OF LIFE: Genesis 2 vs 7

Dust + Breath of Life = Living Soul

Destiny of Man without God...

THE EQUATION OF LIFE: Genesis 2 vs 7

Living Soul - Breath of Life = Dust

- Sinning reverses the formula of our creation

Destiny of Man without God...

Souls can love, hate, hunger, get tired

- “Slothfulness casts into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.” Proverbs 19v15

Destiny of Man without God...

Souls can also Sin:

- Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sins, it shall die. Ezekiel 18v4

Destiny of Man without God?

Our Destiny without Gods Master Plan?

- We return to “dust”
- Unconscious sleep in the grave
- Where mind and body are destroyed

The way to change this destiny

- Jesus was the only man who never sinned
- As a result, his death was unjust
- The grave could not hold him
 - Acts 2v24
- Jesus holds the keys to the grave
 - Rev 1v18



The way of Escape

- Lord Jesus holds out a wonderful hope to escape our destiny - the Resurrection
- Jesus will return and....
 - “transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.” (Philippians 3v21)



The way of Escape

- We will be given immortal bodies!
- Incorruptible, undying bodies
 - 1 Corinthians 15v51-58
- “For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus”
 - Romans 6v23
- This is gift of God to those who build their lives around it!



The way of Escape

There is a way of escape from our destiny...

- It is the hope of the resurrection by Jesus when he returns to set up his kingdom

God wants each one of us to desire it!



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~ Coffee Break ~

~ 5 minutes ~

Overview - Section 4

- What stops us from participating?
 - Who are sinners and what is sin?
 - Where does sin com from?
 - What causes man to sin?
 - What is the devil and satan?

Who are sinners by Gods standards?

- All of us (except Christ)
 - Romans 8v3
- “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”
 - Romans 3v23



What is sin defined as?

- Disobedience to God's law
- Doing our own will instead of God's will
 - Whosoever commits sin transgresses also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.
(1 John 3v4)



Where does sin come from?

- The Prophet Jeremiah wrote this...
 - 'The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked: who can know it?' Jeremiah 17v 9
- Jesus said this...
 - 'all these evils come from inside and make a man unclean' Mark 7v20



Where does sin come from?

- James wrote this...
 - ‘but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. Then after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full grown gives birth to death’ (James 1v14)



What is the devil?

- The Bible does not teach a personal tempter
 - Devil and Satan are words that mean false accuser/slanderer and adversary
 - The writers used a concept of sin described as a person....Personification
 - Fighting is more focused if it is against a personified enemy



What is the 'devil' – in a word?

- Other uses of the words for devil in the NT
 - Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers [Greek: 'diabolos'], sober, faithful in all things. (1 Timothy 3v11)
 - This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, ...unholy, ...false accusers [Greek: 'diabolos'], ...despisers of those that are good. (2 Timothy 3v1-3)
- The word in the Greek means false accuser, slanderer



What is satan – in a word?

- The same events recorded in different books
 - 1 Chron 21:1 And satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.
 - 2 Samuel 24:1 And again the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he moved David against them to say, Go, number Israel and Judah.
- The word in the Hebrew means 'adversary'

What do we fight against them?

- We fight against our own nature and will
 - 'But I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members' Romans 7v23



Christs sacrifice conquers sin

- We die because we sin, and have a sinful nature
 - Romans 6v23 'For the wages of sin is death'
- Christs sacrifice and resurrection conquers sin
 - Hebrews 9v26 'But now he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself'
 - Heb 2:14 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, he likewise shared in their humanity, so that through death he could destroy the one who holds the power of death



What must we resist?

- We must struggle against our own desires
 - Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

Psalm 139:23-24



Conclusion

- Sin is when we are enticed & over come by *our own* desires
- Corrupt human nature is personified in the Bible as the devil
- Our aim: to conquer our own desires
 - Following our own path this prevents us from following God's path and from participating in His master plan
- Jesus has conquered his human desire completely, so we can share in his divine nature





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Next Week:

What is the key to God's plan?

Who is the Master Planner?