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GOD'S IMMOVABLE, UNCHANGEABLE, ETERNAL PURPOSE

A man without purpose is truly a miserable, lost soul. Most of the teachings of the organized church are still rooted in the dark ages, painting the picture of a God with very little purpose for His creation. In a dream "I was walking fast to catch a jet plane. I was carrying a very large roll of blueprints under my arm. I was anxious to open the roll and read the prints, but I knew I could not do that until I got on that jet and when we reached the highest cruising altitude." As time went by, I understood better what this dream was saying. We have been given the blueprints of God's plans and purposes in Christ, but it is not until we move on a higher level in the Spirit that we are able to understand them. Without a vision of God's purpose for us, for humanity, for the earth, for creation, we remain lost in darkness. Only God can raise us to the place where we can understand these things. He alone owns and operates the jet plane that takes us higher in Spirit. If our vision for eternity is for a life in either a hell where we are continually subjected to the cruelest torments imaginable, or a heaven with no other purpose than to be reunited with our loved ones, we are indeed most miserable creatures.

As we look at what is happening in our world today, we stand ready to condemn those we deem as evil, and to fight fiercely to retain the ways of life that we love. Yet, when we get in the Spirit and begin to see God's mighty plan and purpose, we discover things that totally change the way we think about the events that are taking place. In our zeal to restore what we consider, "paradise lost," let us not forget to check with the One who made the plans for His creation in the first place. Perhaps in seeking answers we looked only to those who would tell us what we want to hear. We all agree that if God is sovereign, He is not only in charge of His world, He has been the executor of His plan all along. Yes, He delegated the keeping of the world into man's hands, but only for a time but man never had the power to change God's plan and purpose for the world. Man can never overrule God's will; if we have a God whose will can be overruled by man's will, we have a weak God indeed. It is when we understand God's purpose for creation, that we are free from condemnation and find peace of heart.

When Jesus ascended, He gave gift ministries unto men. These are effective tools that have been at work to bring His called-out people to the light and to maturity. "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ; till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ." (Eph. 4:11-13) Although man has sought to organize and direct these ministries, they have been working freely and with great success. The work of the Spirit in His church has been an "underground" work; the visible, organized church in the world has served as a smoke-screen to hide the true. The body of Christ has been growing steadily in the knowledge of the Son of God, in the unity of the faith, unto a perfect Man in the earth, and the world has not known it. "Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more, but ye see me; because I live, ye shall live also." (Jn.14:19)

Many ministers are educated in theology, articulate, charismatic men, who chose their calling as a way to acquire and enjoy a good living. They teach good principles and work with the flock to keep them

coming and supporting their work. In this way, they establish what they call churches, that are establishments much more like clubs where families can feel safe and secure. These may be good things in our societies, but they are impostors as far as being God's "sent" ministries. The ministries who have been truly sent of God and who have broken through the darkness of sin, have shined their light on a path leading to truth and understanding in the knowledge of God, they are not sought after by the multitudes. We can easily name some of the great apostles of the reformation, (Luther, Calvin, Wesley, Knox and many more), but the Lord has also raised up many whose names are not written in the pages of man's annals, but who opened the way for us to know the mysteries of Christ in us. Indeed our God has a purpose for everything and everyone that He has created. Nothing in the world has ever been happenstance; it has all been planned in Christ from the foundation of the world; only it is not understood by our logic and reasoning; it is known only as God reveals it to us.

As I was clearing out some of my old files I ran across a small booklet that caught my attention. It was called "The Page" which was written years ago by a pastor from Saskatchewan Canada, a man who was known as the "father of the Latter Rain movement." Indeed, this man was sent with the clear word of an apostolic anointing, to call the people out of Babylon. This issue of The Page, called "According to the Purpose," is indeed a powerful Word for us today. As we see what is happening in our country and in the world, it is easy to react as humans do, and try to do something to help the cause. This is normal in the world, but it falls short of what the Spirit has planned for us. God's ways are not our ways, neither are His thoughts our thoughts. Our God is omnipotent and omniscient; He has created and set in place all the players that will bring His plan into action for the completion of His purpose. The Spirit leaped within me, when I read this copy of The Page, and found that what was written, was exactly what I so desired to express from my heart.

I quote, "Can you not see what a vital transforming difference is made to your understanding when you see PURPOSE written in flaming letters over everything created and made in all heaven and earth? Can you not see what a vital difference it makes in your attitude toward all things and all people whether good or bad, when you understand that PURPOSE is ever present, partly for their sakes, partly for the sake of creation, but above all things for God's sake? My attitude toward the rebellious King Pharaoh was for years an attitude of scorn and distaste for such a hard-hearted enemy of God until one day I read these words, "For now will I stretch my hand that I may smite thee and thy people with pestilence; and then thou shalt be cut off from the earth. And in very deed have I raised thee up, for to show my power and that my name may be declared throughout the whole earth." (Ex.9:15)

Listen to the enlightened revelation of Paul as he speaks of Pharaoh and says, "It is not to him that willeth, or to him that showeth mercy. For the scriptures say of Pharaoh, even for this same purpose have I raised thee up that I might show my power in thee and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. Therefore hath He mercy on whom He will have mercy, and whom He will, He hardeneth." (Rom.9:16-18)" End of quote.

It is so easy to condemn Pharaoh for his abuse, corruption and cruelty to God's chosen people, and it is so easy for us to condemn the "Pharaohs" who use their positions of power to bully people and bind them under their domination, to destroy their ideals and beliefs and force them to follow their ways. It is understandable, that zealous Christians void of understanding the ways of God, become rebellious and even fearful. They rise up against these governments, totally forgetting that God is not asleep. He is the One who has set them in their place of power that He might show His power and glory. With

seemingly good intent, but utter ignorance, these Christians are feverishly pushing to establish what they believe to be God's will and ways in this world, while they are working against God's plan and purpose. Peter writes that as there were false prophets in his days, there shall be false teachers with damnable heresies as well. He pointed to them who are "presumptuous," "Chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, self-willed, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord. But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption." (II Pet.2:10-12)

Could this be a true assessment of what we see taking place in our nation today? I am not saying that the governments in place are godly, but I am saying that if God had purposed to do things as some think they should have been, He would have done it that way. If we feel defeated, then God is a loser! When we understand God's ways and purpose, we know that He actually intends these terrible situations to show forth His power and glory in the end. For indeed, out of these ashes, God is raising up a Man, a people, a Deliverer who will not fail to bring creation out of bondage and into His glorious light and liberty. Can we not see today, the plan of God to show forth His glory out of the desperation, desolation and distress that the man of flesh has created for himself and his world. Nevertheless, the darker the situation, the greater the glory. This is God's way and it is His purpose as well.

Jude writes that the powerful Archangel Michael, understood God's purpose; he knew that even Satan had a part in that purpose and so he would not bring a railing accusation against him. Jude also quotes Enoch's prophecy about the times we are in now, "And prophesy also to these did the seventh from Adam-Enoch-saying, 'Lo, the Lord did come in his saintly myriads...' (Jude vs.14 Young's literal translation). Indeed, the judgment to come, has been in progress, being accomplished by the Holy Spirit in His many-membered body of saints, (sons of God). It is my understanding so far, that the judgment that is taking place is the revealing of men's hearts, and it first began with us. As it is written, "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?" (I Pet.4:17) Men have imagined many ways that God judges His people and the world, but it is when we have walked with Him through the fire, that we know by experience how He accomplishes it. Let us be aware that the fires that we have been through and that we are still passing through in our lives, have not been in vain. They have served to purify our wandering souls and bring us closer to knowing and serving the true God. Yes, the called-out ones are first to pass through the fires of judgment, that they might be found as He is, and that He might appear in them, the myriads of sons in His image to judge the world. This is God's purpose for us and it will soon be manifested in the world. And the Spirit and the bride say, come!

CHEEK TO CHEEK

At this point, I am reminded of a dream that stirred me and left me under its power for several days when I first had it; it still warms my heart when I think of it now. In the dream, "It was early morning and I was ready and dressed for school. I first stopped for breakfast in this large kitchen. On one side, against the wall, there was a long counter with high stools. No one was there that I could see, so I went to the last two stools at the corner end of the counter. I sat down on a stool. Suddenly I noticed someone sitting next to me on the last corner stool. It was my father. (In this life, my earthly father passed away in 1958, and after the one dream of him that I had at the time of his death, I never dreamed of him again. I loved my father so much, he was a pillar and a source of strength through my growing up years and beyond.) In the dream, I was so happy to see my father and greeted him warmly. He leaned his face toward mine, and we sat cheek

to cheek, without a word, just drinking in the love and peace that flowed between us. Then I knew I had to leave for I still needed to go to school. Now I would be late, but that was alright because I had been with my father."

This dream was a powerful experience, and I knew that its main message was all about the love that flowed between my father and me. This reunion was an indescribable exchange of love, joy and contentment between us. Of course, in the dream, my father represents our heavenly Father, and I stand for all those who are coming to this place as well. Indeed we are nearing this much anticipated reunion! At that time we will be able to fully receive His love and to also show Him how much we really love Him. To love Him is to love who He is. He is love, truth, justice, mercy and much more. Being one with the Father is what our souls yearn for. We have been separated from Him by the darkness of sin, but our journey in Christ is bringing us back to this divine union. Our soul is "redeemed." This means that a price has been paid to bring it back to its proper owner. God is the proper and sole Owner of all souls, "Behold, all souls are mine..." (Eze.18:4)

Eve represents the soul. Her first love was the voice of God, but she became enamored with the voice of the serpent and left her first love. The fruit of the forbidden tree filled her with the earthly desires of the flesh, and she became enamored with herself, ambitious, aggressive, combative, competitive and rebellious against God's word. Her heart became hungry for self-promotion, to be the best over her fellowmen. Sports and games enticed her greatly, not so much the beauty of the sports as the fierce competition and lust to win. She fully relied on her ability to lead her life through her own knowledge of good and evil and of right and wrong. But that knowledge was deceptive, biased and warped; it led her down a path of darkness and death. Adam followed her and the Adam man was now led by a vain, carnal soul and a crooked and perverse spirit. This is where the human race as we know it has been operating in the world to this day.

Nevertheless, the Son of God never gave up His soul bride. And deep within her, the soul never fully forgot her first love, so when the time to gather her unto Himself came, He gently began to call her out of her grave and to awaken her desire for His love. She heard His voice and answered. By His Holy Spirit, the true Husband, Redeemer of our souls, has been leading us back to Himself, leaving all our lovers behind, and turning again to our first love. He has nailed to the cross, the old Adam creature that she had been married to, and He has cleansed, purified and saved our fragile souls that He might present her to Himself in holy matrimony. He has been guiding and turning our desires back to the knowledge of God, and leading us back to partake of the tree of Life in the midst of the garden of our souls. And so from faith to faith, we have been moving back to our first love.

Our hearts and minds which once yearned for the pleasures of this world, are now yearning for the things that pertain to life eternal. We seek Him whom our soul loves. We hear our inner desire expressed in the Song of Solomon, "By night on my bed I sought him whom my soul loveth; I sought him but I found him not. I will rise now, and go about the city in the streets, and in the broad ways I will seek him whom my soul loveth; I sought him, but I found him not. The watchmen that go about the city found me: to whom I said, Saw ye him whom my soul loveth? It was but a little that I passed from them, but I found him whom my soul loveth. I held him and would not let him go..." (S.of S. 3:1-4) Can we not identify with the Shulamite, as our souls have been searching for the love of our true Husband. He is the only one who can fill the void within. Love has called us back to our Beloved. Cheek to cheek and face to face, we shall know Him as He is, and we shall sing His praises forever and ever. Amen.

Because He is love, Jackie Caporaso