

The Incredible Perfect Plan

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Recorded on January 30, 2021

In December 1941, Winston Churchill addressed a joint session of the U.S. Congress. In the final paragraph of his address, he said the following:

He must indeed have a blind soul who cannot see that some great purpose and design is being worked out here below.

We see today a tremendous blindness in this world and it seems like it is almost universal. I believe that we all do understand that God has a tremendous design and an incredible plan that is being worked out here on this earth. He is currently executing that plan. My title today is:

The Incredible Perfect Plan

In our travels one time, back in the Mid-west, I attended one of the Church of God congregations and I was talking after services with the Elder there—the Pastor. We got to talking about the “what if’s” and the Garden of Eden. There were several possibilities.

Plan A

They take of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil and are forced out of the garden—which is what happened.

Plan B

Adam and Eve take the Tree of Life and live forever.

We jokingly talked about a third option, where Adam takes of the Tree of Good and Evil and offers it to Eve and Eve takes of the Tree of Good and Evil. She offers it to Adam and he refuses. So, Eve is cast out of the Garden and they are separated and have no children and it’s the end of the story.

Many years ago, I was given an article by a former Elder in the Worldwide Church of God which stated that God had a Plan A and a Plan B. I’ve heard from other Christian sources that there is a Plan A and a Plan B and I totally disagree with that. I have also heard that Adam and Eve took of the wrong tree and I don’t agree with that either. The Bible tells us that Jesus Christ was killed from the foundation of the world, so that really indicates that there was a plan that called for Jesus Christ to die for the sins of mankind. There was only one plan. Adam and Eve were foreordained to take of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

I think a problem with our human minds is that we really can’t understand the idea of infinity. Look at Psalm 147:1.

Psalm 147:1 *Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; For it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful.*

2) *The LORD builds up Jerusalem; He gathers together the outcasts of Israel.*

3) *He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.*

4) *He counts the number of the stars; He calls them all by name.*

5) *Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite. (NKJV)*

So, God has infinite knowledge. We cannot really understand that as human beings. But that is the way it is if you look at what He has created. God has a perfect plan that He is carrying out on this earth. Fred Kellers, in his sermon some time back, asked a question,

“Why was Satan in the Garden of Eden?”

God could have sealed him in a pit. Satan was there purposefully to steer Adam and Eve to the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Mankind had to go through, what I would call, a 6000-year educational process, before being allowed to become Spirit Beings. We have been shown what good is, but we have also had our noses rubbed in every kind of evil, which gets worse year by year. This is in order to see the difference; the difference between good and evil. Really that is the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil; it is in effect right now.

So, God decided to create a family of Spirit Beings to enlarge the God family and it led to this incredible design process. God started it with a goal. I'd like to go through just a few background scriptures, beginning in Nehemiah 9:6.

Nehemiah 9:6 *You alone are the LORD; You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and everything on it, the seas and all that is in them, And You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You. (NKJV)*

God created this whole physical universe.

John 1:1, as it should read in the Greek:

John 1:1 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with [the] God, and the Word was God.*

2) *He was in the beginning with God.*

3) *All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. (NKJV)*

God the Father worked with and through Jesus Christ in the creation. One last scripture in my little background—Genesis 1:26.

Genesis 1:26 *Then God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”*

27) S, God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. (NKJV)

God said “Let us make man in Our image”. So, we see God the Father and Jesus Christ enter again, into a project to increase Their family by creating Beings like Themselves. One more scripture in 1 John 3:1.

1 John 3:1 *Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore, the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.*

2) Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. (NKJV)

Being an engineer all my working life, I have to see this as some tremendous, awesome design project that God has designed and is carrying out. If you were in the place of God and Jesus Christ, how would you go about this design process? Creating Spirit Beings with powers that God has, is a project that is fraught with tremendous danger. The training of these new Beings is so critical that they have to have a nature like God—the Father and Jesus Christ; a nature that abhors every kind of evil and looks to what is good. To deeply love good and abhor every kind of evil. It seems this would require some kind of a temporary existence for these Beings who are being trained. They should not be given spiritual life immediately in that training time and be able to live forever. It would require a realm different from the spiritual realm—perhaps a temporary physical existence. A training environment would be necessary. What should it look like?

There needs to be confinement, freedom of movement; wouldn't a huge sphere be ideal? So large it would look like a flat surface. They would not be constrained, they could travel in any direction as far as they wanted, they would not be trapped. Isaiah 40:21.

Isaiah 40:21 *Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? 22) It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in. (NKJV)*

Here we have this circular or spherical earth. Men back in those times understood some things that got lost over the ages. We have this spherical earth and there needs to be some isolation. How do we isolate this spherical earth? Job 26:7.

Job 26:7 *He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing. (NKJV)*

Here is this big, beautiful, circular earth, a perfect environment, floating in what seems like an empty space. What should this earth be made of? Perhaps a great variety of different elements. Especially ones that can combine an almost infinite number of compounds to give these “beings” a tremendous variety of materials. Then they can work with and learn some design and creation on their own. If they design these elements that could attract each other, then, these new beings, who are being held on this sphere by a force, wouldn’t fly away into this emptiness. There is not anything that we take more for granted than gravity. I was just thinking of that the other day. It is just right. If God had been off by a factor or two, we would be crawling around on our hands and knees, but here we are. If you think about it, it all fits.

Next, how do you design these physical “beings”? We could talk all day about the incredible design that went into the human body. Think of a baby when it’s born. A baby starts with no teeth because it has to suck liquid food. The mother is miraculously designed to provide that liquid food. Then the baby develops baby teeth because its mouth is too small for big teeth. Then these fall out at an appropriate time and a fresh set of larger teeth come in. It grows to adult size and is programmed to stop growing. Because at that point, as we are designed to have a limited physical life, it is time to begin aging

Along the way we reproduce and that involves a myriad of fantastic miracles in the reproduction of mankind. This is saying nothing of all the features of the human body—sight, hearing, feeling and a mind to think with. Even more miraculous, this all operates according to a program which is in this DNA that we have discovered and which is part of every cell in our body. We and all living things are a combination of hardware and software.

It wasn’t many decades ago that mankind learned how to combine software and hardware to design things that were a lot more powerful. It’s incredible, I think, when man discovered that every living thing is controlled by DNA programming, they could still hang on to the idea that there is no such thing as Intelligent Design. How can you say that programming is not Intelligent Design? So, man came to the idea of hardware and software and here it is in every living thing.

These “beings” needed to be taught the principle of family if they are going to become part of God’s family. They needed to learn about love, caring and unity. How about designing these new “beings” as complementary pairs so they can have children and learn how to raise these children? They could learn the value of teaching good habits and attitudes. They could witness and see what happens when there are bad habits that come into being.

What should the training look like for these “beings”? You would want them to experience many things in their learning environment, happiness, joy and especially love. To experience loss, tragedy, fear and even hatred. To learn creativity, accomplishment and destruction. You could design them to have different abilities so they learn to work together and learn cooperation—working together. In other words,

enough experiences to build in wisdom and the character that God is looking for. I think the most important aspect of this training and the hardest for You as a Loving Being—working with these creatures would be training them to absolutely know the effects of evil and come to abhor every kind of evil. It would require some very tough love on your part. Perhaps even heartbreaking at times, but there's no option.

Unfortunately, this would require them to be immersed in evil, to see its effects in many situations. They cannot be isolated from it, they have to experience it firsthand, even taking part in evil to see the effects in their own lives. This lesson is so important that they must see firsthand how evil can lead to the complete, absolute destruction of everything. Everything they have worked for all their lives and the environment they live in.

These “beings” could be placed in a setting containing beauty and then experience love and goodness come to complete and total destruction as a result of evil. The effects of evil must be so indelibly implanted in their minds. This requires every good and lovely thing, destroyed by evil because God will not allow the creation of another Satan. I think given this, you can see exactly why this world that we are living in is like it is. Going back to Genesis 2:8

Genesis 2:8 *The LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed.*

9) And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. (NKJV)

The Tree of Life and the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil were there. The key word here is knowledge—that's what life is all about. Gaining a knowledge required to be part of God's family. Learning the consequences of good and evil and coming to have absolute abhorrence of every evil thing is an absolute requirement for being allowed to have eternal life and be part of God's family. Taking of the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden just does not fit that plan.

In the conversation I had with this pastor in the Mid-West, the question came up as to why there was a Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden—he said if you find out let me know. That's another study on its own. I think it's incredible until you read the following scripture in Isaiah 6:9.

Isaiah 6:9 *And He said, Go, and tell this people: Keep on hearing, but do not understand; Keep on seeing, but do not perceive.*

10) Make the heart of this people dull, and their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; Lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and return and be healed.” (NKJV)

God has shut up knowledge of His whole plan and what He's doing on this earth from the great majority of all mankind. But why? Isn't it so mankind can see where ignorance

leads? They are living a life of ignorance and seeing where evil leads. How best can you learn evil but by practicing evil? Ultimately to total destruction. Revelation 22, now we are looking ahead to God's Kingdom, in verse 2.

Revelation 22:2 *In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. (NKJV)*

In New Jerusalem, there will be the Tree of Life. There won't be the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil because that time has passed, that tree has served its purpose. So now for the last 6000 years we have been in the time of the knowledge of the tree of good and evil. We are still in the time of that tree, but we are nearing the end. The process has to reach its conclusion, which I feel is very near.

In any educational system there has to be testing and God is going to really come to know what is in each and every one of our hearts and minds. He's going to know us completely, inside and out. God tested Abraham, God tested Jacob, God tested Job, God is testing us. I feel we may be in a time of the final exam. What is the hardest test for mankind to pass? In my mind I've been thinking recently of what I call the prime directive and that's in Matthew 18:3.

Matthew 18:3 *Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.
4) Therefore, whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. (NKJV)*

Unless we humble ourselves and become like the little children God is looking for, there is no way we will enter the Kingdom of heaven. Knowing the ego, the vanity, the deceptiveness of our human nature and our minds is the most difficult test to pass. I believe that very few are going to pass that test and we need to ask ourselves, am I passing that test? We need to examine ourselves very deeply. I feel collectively and I have to include myself in this, that we are not doing very well and we have to think about this test of our human nature.

I've been reading Viktor Franci's book, Man's Search For Meaning. Franci survived the Nazi concentration camps by helping others. He helped others by concentrating on a mental outlook in which he said, "If you have a why, you can find a how." We have the most incredible "why" that could possibly be in the universe—to become the children of God. If we truly have that "why", God can produce the "how". He can change our hearts and minds to become the humble little children He is looking for to be members of His Family. He has to know that it is truly our desire and He has to know whether we really desire to be this kind of person.

God's perfect plan is nearing its completion. For now, we must not forget that God is infinitely wise and in power and control of everything and we must truly have the "why" to be in His Kingdom. God will produce the "how".