

~~Plan A~~

**PLAN B:
THE BLOODLINE OF
REDEMPTION**

- The entire Bible contains the heart and plan of God regarding His relationship with us.
- **It can be best understood by knowing a single verse found in the book of John.**
- In John 17, we are given Jesus' beautiful emotional prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane the night before His death. One verse toward the end of that prayer stands out:

“Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.” (17:24)

In this one single verse, we are told the heart of God toward us. He wants us with Him forever. **And that is what the Bible is all about.**

The Bible contains Elohim's plan initially for our fellowship with Him (**Plan A**), and ultimately for our reunion (**Plan B**), the history and execution of that plan, and the promises of our forever dwelling with Him.

One of the **most basic and foundational concepts of scripture** is the simple but astounding fact that **God desires fellowship with His creatures.**

In the first few lines of scripture Elohim revealed to us His purpose, the problem, and the coming solution to the problem.

Very early we are shown these foundational truths:

- *“In the beginning, God...”*
perhaps most important words to know and understand. If we can't wholeheartedly embrace these words and believe them completely, we may as well throw out the rest of the book. It won't do you any good ultimately.

These words say He has always been, and will be....

- Even in the first sentence is a **supernatural message** if we only have ears to hear (*first 7 words of Genesis 1 – more later!*) *That tells us a lot about scripture...*
- God created everything
- God has a purpose in His creation, to have fellowship with His creatures (*it is His desire to do this, to be with us*) **We were created to have fellowship, to be with God, as His companions for all eternity.**
- Both good and evil exist in this world (fallen)

- Mankind has freewill, which usually does not align with God's will
- Mankind used freewill to sin against God, and open a chasm of separation between Him and us, causing Plan A (*God's original plan for our fellowship together*) **to fail**. (*Not HIS fault!*) Another plan was needed. **Another plan was already waiting.** God knew what ~~Plan A~~ was needed before it was needed (*that is still true!*)

- Because of sin, **fellowship with God had to happen a different way** and man could not remain in the Paradise created for that fellowship.
- Life on this planet changed dramatically. Life for all mankind, **originally intended to be a beautiful and perfect life of joy and perfection**, now became difficult, full of toil, burdens, corruption...and death.

- Though separated by sin, God made provision for us to be with Him, even while still here on earth, and even in our corrupt state. **The Tabernacle and Temple** (*physical and spiritual*) are evidence of this. This is His heart's desire.
- First promise of Plan B was made in **Genesis 3:15**, which *could not be fully understood* by anyone at that time, without the rest of the plan revealed, and without His Spirit to convict the hearts of mankind.

- **God set aside** *(for later!)* **His beautiful Plan A.** Now that sin had been introduced, another plan, **Plan B**, was put into action.
- Plan B required working through **one group of people** to demonstrate God's nature, and invite the entire world to receive His gift that would reunite us back together with Him.
- He had to call **one people** who would be the "voice" of God, revealing Him and His Plan to everyone else.

- Although man could not fully understand the promise of redemption and reunion, God still revealed His plan, a little at a time, through His actions and His words, and through His People.
- One thing was very clear: **reunion with God could only happen through redemption and atonement by an approved sacrifice**.

- He began by choosing one man from whom He would build a nation, an ethnic group of people distinct from all other peoples on the planet – a people to whom He would entrust His Plan.
- He made promises to this man, and confirmed them to his son, and to his grandson.
- **A specific bloodline was established**, through whom all the families of the earth would be **blessed**.

- The ultimate goal of this bloodline of redemption was reunion of God with His creation, through His Son the Messiah.
- But this blessing went far beyond the far off ultimate redemption. It included understanding (*what we can understand, we see through a glass darkly right now [1Corinthians 13:4]*) and actually KNOWING God while we are still here in this corrupt place.

- It included having words to comfort, explain, instruct, warn and protect us ...now.
- ***Most astonishingly, it includes having a relationship with the Sovereign, Most High God of the Universe. (what???)***
- They were not prepared for how this could happen.

- Nation built from Abraham's seed, from Isaac's son Jacob and the 12 "tribes" was called **Israel**. These people were known as Israelites, or **Hebrews**.
- **Plan B's bloodline** was narrowed down to a specific family within this nation (Tribe of Judah), and further narrowed to a single bloodline within this family (David).
- Along the way God made promises (covenants) with His people that pointed to His Plan, and the acceptable sacrifice He would provide.

Paul describes Israel in this way:

...the people of Isra'el... They were made God's children, the Sh'khinah has been with them, the covenants are theirs, likewise the giving of the Torah, the Temple service and the promises; the Patriarchs are theirs; and from them, as far as his physical descent is concerned, came the Messiah, who is over all. Praised be ADONAI for ever! Amen.

(Romans 9:4-6, CJB)

Israel was given the task of bringing God's Light and Plan to the nations so they could be saved as well.

- Israel fell down on this job, but the nations (Gentiles) also did not have “ears to hear.” They did not want to hear. In fact, neither did many of those who are called “*people of the Book.*”
- **The same is true today.** The world, regardless of ethnic origin (Jew or non-Jew), does not want to hear about the incredible gift of salvation. They want nothing to do with the Most High God.
- Sadly, the world today despises and hates the people of God. All the “oracles” given Israel are mostly forgotten, trampled, and ignored.

- For most, even among those “saved” within what is erroneously called the “Church” today, those things *(the “oracles” of God given in the Old Testament)* were tossed out when the world turned against Elohim’s people. *In essence, we have thrown the baby out with the bathwater.*
- When the world turned against God’s people, right from the very beginning of their existence, they also turned their backs on this wealth of knowledge and instruction that enables us to draw close to Him, even while still on this corrupted earth.

- There is a **supernatural and unexplainable hatred for God's people throughout all ages**. But it is not the *people* the world hates, it is God Himself.
- Yeshua said as much when He instructed His disciples before His death:
“If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.” (John 15:18-19)

- In ancient biblical times, it was the Israelites, the chosen people of God who were hated *and still are*. Since the Messiah, it is those who love Him who were hated *and still are*.
- Interesting thing, and another area we will explore, we are the same people. We are the chosen. We are the redeemed of Israel. (Ezekiel 37 prophecies about the “two sticks” [Judah and Ephraim – *melo haGoyim*] being made one – one “Israel”)
- Israel was born to shine the light of God into the nations, to offer a way back to God to the peoples of the world. *But now she is hated without reason.*

- Today, the critical importance of Israel (*and all the wisdom, oracles and information given her*) has been lost. *It is replaced by hatred and distorted lies.*
- Even in the “**Church**” there are those who do not understand the importance of Israel for us today.
- God has not, He *cannot*, and will not ever abandon Israel. Israel is the receiver of the “oracles” and the ultimate plan of God. They are *not better than others, just chosen* by God to demonstrate His nature and plan.
- Most do not want to hear or know this. *They have chosen human wisdom and darkness instead.*

- While Elohim wishes His people to be willingly and lovingly blessed by others (Gentiles), the entire world must come to know and realize one very important factor in all this:

The Abrahamic Covenant is still in effect!

It is an unconditional and eternal covenant (*not all are*). There are several terms to this covenant, but for this purpose one stands out:

“I will bless those who
bless you, but I will
curse anyone who
curses you...”

(Genesis 12:3 CJB)

A few reasons for this class:

- Understanding the entire Redemptive Plan of God, and all that is included in the “oracles” of Israel
- Why these things are important today (not just important, but CRITICAL)
- Seeing the hand of God in all things
- Blessing Israel

- Tying all of scripture together – the **“scarlet thread”** woven throughout all pointing to ONE person through whom the world, those who respond, are reunited with the Most High God, the Sovereign of the Universe
- To prepare us to better tell the Good News to others
- *To love Him, and His people, more....*

So let's get started looking at
the "oracles" of God,
given to His people,
Israel

The Old Testament 39 Books

3 Major Divisions

*The scarlet
thread runs
through it all*



PART 1: HISTORY

2 MAJOR DIVISIONS: 5/12

**PENTATEUCH—
TORAH**
(Gr. “The 5
Books”)
(Hebrew, “The
Law”)
*(From Creation
to end of
wilderness
wanderings)*

- 1 GENESIS**
- 2 EXODUS**
- 3 LEVITICUS**
- 4 NUMBERS**
- 5 DEUTERONOMY**

- 6—JOSHUA**
- 7—JUDGES**
- 8—RUTH**
- 9—1 SAMUEL**
- 10—2 SAMUEL**
- 11—1 KINGS**
- 12—2 KINGS**
- 13—1 CHRONICLES**
- 14—2 CHRONICLES**
- 15—EZRA**
- 16—NEHEMIAH**
- 17—ESTHER**

**IN THE LAND OF
ISRAEL (Pre-Exile)**
**IN CAPTIVITY
(Exile)**
**AFTER CAPTIVITY
(Post Exile)**
*(From entrance into
the land to return
from captivity in
Babylon)*

PART 2: POETRY 5 Books

**“WRITINGS” OR
“WISDOM” BOOKS**
(mostly poetic)
*(covers many years
and many
contributors)*

18 JOB

19 PSALMS

20 PROVERBS

21 ECCLESIASTES

22 SONG OF SOLOMON

PART 3: PROPHECY

17 Books (5/12)

MAJOR PROPHETS
(DUE ONLY to
longer lengths)
(From approx
700-800 BC to 530
BC)

23 ISAIAH
24 JEREMIAH
25 LAMENTATIONS
26 EZEKIEL
27 DANIEL

28—HOSEA
29—JOEL
30—AMOS
31—OBADIAH
32—JONAH
33—MICAHA
34—NAHUM
35—HABAKKUK
36—ZEPHANIAH
37—HAGGAI
38—ZECHARIAH
39—MALACHI

**MINOR
PROPHETS**
(shorter
lengths)
(700-800 BC
to 430 BC)

THE OLD TESTAMENT (Hebrew Tanakh)

- 39 books
- by about 30-32 authors
- 929 chapters
- 23,214 verses
- 593,493 words
- Longest book: Psalms
- Shortest book: Obadiah (3rd shortest)
- 5 books of Law (*also History books*)
- 17 books of History (5/12)
- 5 books of Poetry
- 17 books of Prophecy (5/12)

Hebrew Tanakh: name is an acronym of **Torah**, **Nevi'im** and **Ketuvim** (Law, Prophets and Writings). The Tanakh consists of same books as Christian Old Testament, in a slightly different order and with other minor differences.

5 books of the Law (Torah)

21 books of the Prophets (Nevi'im)

13 books of Writings (Ketuvim)

TORAH (The Law):

- Bereishith (In the beginning...) (Genesis)
- Shemoth (The names...) (Exodus)
- Vayiqra (And He called...) (Leviticus)
- Bamidbar (In the wilderness...) (Numbers)
- Devarim (The words...) (Deuteronomy)

NEVI'IM (The Prophets):

Yehoshua (Joshua)

Shoftim (Judges)

Shmuel (I & II Samuel)

Melakhim (I & II Kings)

Yeshayah (Isaiah)

Yirmyah (Jeremiah)

Yechezqel (Ezekiel)

NEVI'IM (The Prophets):

The Twelve

- Hoshea (Hosea)
- Yoel (Joel)
- Amos
- Ovadyah (Obadiah)
- Yonah (Jonah)
- Mikhah (Micah)
- Nachum (Nahum)
- Chavaqquq (Habakkuk)
- Tzefanyah (Zephaniah)
- Chaggai (Haggai)
- Zekharyah (Zechariah)
- Malakhi (Malachi)

- KETHUVIM (The Writings)**
- Tehillim (Psalms)
 - Mishlei (Proverbs)
 - Iyov (Job)
 - Shir Ha-Shirim (Song of Songs)
 - Rut (Ruth)
 - Eikhah (Lamentations)
 - Qoheleth (Ecclesiastes)
 - Hadasah (Esther)
 - Dani'el (Daniel)
 - Ezra & Nechemyah (Nehemiah) (*one book*)
 - Divrei Ha-Yamim (Words of the days) (Chronicles)