

Acts # 20

“God’s Deliberate Plan”

Acts 2:17-24

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world and it is fitting that the Light of the world should return to a world completely shrouded in darkness so that every eye shall see Him because the only light which will be visible on that day will be the Light of Jesus Christ Himself!

No one saw Jesus except God the Father who poured out the sins of the human race on Him but everyone will see Jesus Christ when He comes back in His glory.

The darkness of the day of the Second Advent is designed to focus attention on Jesus Christ, King of kings, Lord of lords.

It’s obvious that the religious Jews and the Roman Empire represented by Pontius Pilate have had something to do with the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is also the plan of God and ultimately the fact that Jesus Christ went to the cross is the deliberate plan of God the Father.

Jesus Christ was delivered by the plan of God to the cross; in other words, all of the Roman Empire and all of the power of the Jewish leadership, could not put Jesus Christ on the cross; it is the plan of God the Father that put His Son on the cross.

Notice that the first half of Acts 2:23 deals with the sovereignty of God and it was God’s will for His Son, Jesus Christ to go to the cross.

But in the physical nature or mechanics of going to the cross, it was the free-will of man which was involved.

And who knew the free-will of man billions of years ago in eternity past? God did!

And He knew exactly how man would think and act; so, at the exact right time, Jesus Christ was brought into the world and at the exact right time, Jesus Christ was led up a hill for crucifixion.

The Word of God teaches both the existence and co-existence of the sovereignty of God and the free-will of man.

But God has the advantage on human free-will in that billions of years before the first man started thinking and using his free-will, the Trinity knew exactly what man would think and what decisions would come from his free-will thinking.

The entire plan of history is based on the fact that God knew exactly how man’s free-will would operate so He designed history accordingly.

History is designed to bring the plan of God, face to face with the free-will of man, to give man a choice in every generation between God’s plan and Satan’s plan.

There’s no denying it; Jesus Christ was dead not unconscious; there was no conspiracy and Peter’s testifying that in our Lord’s ministry, there were signs, wonders and miracles and the greatest of these came after His death when three days later, God raised Him up!

So, Peter boldly claims that it was impossible for Messiah as prophesied in the Old Testament to remain

in that grave.

And Messiah's resurrection must be understood from Old Testament messianic prophecy.