

### **Genesis 1: 26-28    God's Foreknowledge in Creation**

Before we get to our text there is a point of understanding that we need to see that is scriptural and is manifest to us in the following two texts: **Eph 1:4; 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: 4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. 7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; 8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; 9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: 10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: 11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: 12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. 13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, 14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.**

**1Pe 1:20; 18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: 20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, 21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.**

These scriptures remind us of several things. One: before time was; God the Father and God the Son existed. Two: Before time was; there were things happening that we don't know of and are only given glimpses of pre-time events as shown in various scriptures. Three: Before time was; God the Father and God the Son and God the Holy Ghost prepared an eternal plan and to bring that plan to fruition it was necessary that time and creation happen. In other words; there was a plan for the eternal purpose of God to have a New Heaven, New Earth, and a New Jerusalem, with a chosen people to occupy them in eternity.

**Our Text: Ge 1:26-28; 26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. 28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.**

Notice: Man was created last and, therefore, could have had no part in creation. Man was created last so that he could not say "by my own hands". Everything necessary, to bring about the plan and purpose of God in the eternal perspective, was accomplished in creation, in the beginning, without the assistance of mankind.

Earth and all other things, plants, animals, etc. were created by the spoken word of God. Consider: ***Ge 1:11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.*** God spoke and the earth brought forth as commanded; in contrast to; ***Ge 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our***

*image, after our likeness: and Ge 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.* Man was created by the work of God; man was formed by the hand of God as seen in: ***Ge 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.***

Adam was created first, from the dust of the earth, and then Eve was created from the created man as seen in: ***Ge 2:21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; 22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. 23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. 24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.*** This gives us a prophetic picture of what will happen in the future for the salvation of mankind. How?

***1Co 15:45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.*** The first man Adam died because of sin. The last Adam, Jesus Christ, died for sin and gave eternal life to all the Father had given him. ***Lu 1:34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? 35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.***

Christ Jesus, the Saviour, (who existed pre-time) was formed a body of flesh in incarnation. From Christ Jesus the woman is formed, which is the church; which church is the total of the saved souls that will be collected into one body, and that one body will be the bride of Christ in eternity. Just as God made one man and from that one man created God the woman. Notice, there was only one man and one woman; so there was no way for the man to choose another woman and all offspring must come from this union. No multiple wives, no divorce and remarrying; Just one wife and all the earth filled with the offspring of the union of the two, the only man and the only woman. Just as Adam and Eve had no choice but to each other as created, so it is with Christ and his church, God the Father has fixed the eternal purpose and the chosen bride for His beloved Son. Thus, we see, Christ will have one wife in eternity and she will be the offspring of the man Jesus Christ. All the inhabitants of the New Heaven and the New Earth will come from and through Christ.

We point out; the procreation of mankind only happens on earth. See: ***Mt 22:30 For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.*** (Angels are created beings that do not procreate) And in: ***Lu 20:34 And Jesus answering said unto them, The children of this world marry, and are given in marriage: 35 But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage: 36 Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection.***

Why is this? Because the eternal purpose of God being fulfilled, there will no longer be a need for procreation of mankind: God having fulfilled that purpose of time and creation, upon the earth, that heaven might be inhabited by the sinless number, made so by Christ in the resurrection as we see in: ***Php 3:20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: 21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.***

In the eternal perspective; God the Father planned for God the Son to have a bride in eternity. It was necessary that God the Son become incarnate to provide the body, which is the source of the bride; just as the body of the first Adam gave that necessary to make the woman. Christ Jesus, incarnate, gave his body, that his wife, the bride the Lamb's wife, might be formed. It will be the power of Christ, the creator and risen and exalted Saviour, that will make the bride a body that is

incorruptible and immortal that she may dwell with Him in His new creation: the New Heaven, the New Earth, and the New Jerusalem.

Praise the Lord! That God the Father and God the Son covenanted together before creation to bring about the salvation of a people to occupy the eternal heaven and earth. One last point: consider the word "know". In scripture many times the word "know" is used to describe the intimate relationship between a man and his wife that brings about procreation. Now consider this: In the bosom of the eternity, God the Father so loved his creation that he made certain that it would bring forth that which was necessary to accomplish the eternal purpose of God. This is emblematic of God the Son so loving his bride to be that He gave his life freely that she might be brought forth in time.

Isn't it amazing that both, God the Father and God the Son, "foreknew" (fore means before it happens, and know meaning to love intimately) what would have to transpire, in time, to make manifest his eternal purpose? Remember this scripture in: ***Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. 17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*** (read from verse 1 to get good context on this statement) Consider: God had such great love, for a people to be saved from sin, that He gave His own Son to die for them, and He made this choice before the world was. Do you see and understand the significance now of "***God so loved the world***"? All this helps us to understand better the scripture found in:

***Ro 8:28-39; 28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. 29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. 31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? 32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? 33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. 34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. 37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. 38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.***

Praise the Lord for His foreknowledge, his amazing grace, his mercy, and for the eternal salvation of his own people. Praise ye the Lord! Hallelujah! Praise ye the Lord!

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