

The Ultimate Preparation

“He has saved us and called us to a holy life – not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time...”

2 Timothy 1:9 (NIV)

As a person who has officiated at weddings for almost 50 years I have had the pleasure of working with many fine young couples as they get ready for their “big day”. One bride – meticulous in detail concerning her wedding and reception that followed – was determined that her wedding would start on time. Her wedding started 10 minutes late.

After doing hundreds of weddings, I have yet to do one that started on time regardless of the preparations that went into the event. Late wedding guests needing to be seated, a flat tire on the car that was bringing the bride, a bride’s mom who had her car break down on the highway – these and many other “glitches” intervened and made the best plans go sour.

Being human, we only make plans in this life for events that are days,

weeks, or even a few years off. Also, because we are human, we are not able to predict all the problems that may arise. We may run out of resources before a plan comes to fruition. Or an event we had not planned on comes along and everything is ruined. We are weak and often make plans that miss the mark.

God knows everything simply because He is sovereign and organizes the things of time according to His will. Therefore, nothing surprises Him. God is all powerful so He never runs out of resources as He puts His plan into action. God is all wise and never does something foolish to torpedo His plan. God’s plan must succeed based on who He is.

As we consider the plan of redemption, we are taught from Scripture that the Lord chose us in Christ before the world began. Paul in Ephesians 1:4-5 (NIV)

writes, “For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will – ”

So when we come to faith in Jesus, we realize that the preparation for that event in our lives was part of God’s ultimate preparation that took place before the worlds came into being. If you are a believer today, rejoice and be glad that your salvation has been eternally in the mind of God as today’s verse states. We were saved in the mind of God in eternity past, we were saved when we came to faith in Jesus, and we will be saved in the great day when Jesus is revealed to the world as Lord and Christ.

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