

The DNA of Christmas – Pt. 2

PRINCIPLE #1. Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Christmas was announced prophetically in Genesis 3 after Adam and Eve had sinned. God had a plan **BEFORE** Adam sinned and He had a plan **AFTER** Adam sinned. **God's plan BEFORE Adam sinned involved obedience, His plan AFTER Adam sinned involved _____.**

Christmas was the solution to Adam's sin. There would be **no Christmas** if God had not made the decision to create man and then to ultimately redeem man after the sin in the garden when he was helpless and without any hope of redeeming himself. Those two decisions laid the foundation for **Christmas**.

There are two critical questions that need to be addressed: **#1. Did God know that His decision to create man would cost Him the life of Jesus on a cross?** Revelation 13:8 refers to Jesus as **the LAMB SLAIN FROM THE FOUNDATION [BEGINNING] OF THE WORLD."**

#2. If God knew that His decision to create man would result in the crucifixion death of Jesus, then WHY DID HE CREATE HUMANS?

God's **PURPOSE** in creating man in His image appears to be four-fold: **#1.** God created man because He wanted to have a **FAMILY**.

Genesis 1:26-28;

PRINCIPLE #2. Part of God's **PURPOSE** in creating man is connected to His continual conflict with satan. Satan rebelled against God because of His desire to be superior to God. He also desired the worship that he once directed to God. **Satan desires your worship today. If he can't succeed in getting you to worship him, he will settle for getting you _____ worship Jesus.**

Satan hates God and desires to turn both angels and humans against their creator. He especially focuses on humans because those who have made Jesus, Lord of their lives have been adopted into God's FAMILY. Satan desires to use **God's _____** against Him in order to **mock** and **insult** the **cross**. He accuses God's children day and night before God in order to invalidate the crucifixion.

Satan is incapable of attacking God, so he attacks His family. God chooses to use His family against satan by equipping them to stand against satan and his temptations.

PRINCIPLE #3. Angels were created to do the work of God's Kingdom on a **professional** basis. **Humans** were created to do the work of God's kingdom on a **FAMILY** basis and to share in the love of God as a **FATHER**. That is a significant part of our **PURPOSE**. But there is another part of our **PURPOSE** that is of great importance also.

The Westminster Shorter Catechism addresses that **PURPOSE** in question number one: "**What is the chief end of man?** Man's chief end is to _____ God, and to enjoy him forever."

God's second **PURPOSE** for creating man in His image was for man to reflect God's _____.

GLORY – "Very great praise; something that is a source of honor; adoring praise or worshipful thanksgiving; **the _____ manifestation of God's presence."** **THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD WHO LIVES IN YOU ALLOWS YOU TO CARRY THE PRESENCE OF GOD WITH YOU.**

PRINCIPLE #4. God placed Adam and Eve in the garden as **His children**, to **GLORIFY** Him through their love and obedience. He also placed a tree in the garden that they could not eat of. **The tree constituted a choice.** God wanted **His children** to love him as a result of their choice to obey him rather than inflicting upon them a mandatory obedience where they had no choice.

When satan came to deceive and manipulate Eve into rebelling against God's one command, she had a choice. She could obey God's instruction or she could follow satan's manipulation, which opposed the _____ will of God.

Revelation 12:10;

PRINCIPLE #5. Every time we choose to sin, satan accuses us before God of not being worth the sacrifice of Jesus. **But when we repent, God counts the blood of the cross as being greater than satan's accusations and greater than our sin.** Our repentance and Christ's sacrifice make satan a _____ every time.

Back in the garden when satan was so sure that he had won and God had lost, God had something to say. **Genesis 3:15;** This is a vital part of the DNA of Christmas. Satan used a woman in order to vandalize God's plan. God was declaring that He would use a woman and her Godly offspring to totally destroy satan's plan. **Satan vandalized; God destroyed.** [1 John 3:8;]

Isaiah 43:5-7; PRINCIPLE #6. YOU were CREATED to bring GLORY to God. YOU do that through love, obedience, worship, words, behavior, attitudes, and Lordship. GLORIFYING God is part of your _____ for being.

1 Corinthians 10:31; Everything we do should be designed to **GLORIFY** God. Any area where our lives are not **GLORIFYING** God should be examined _____ because we were **CREATED TO GLORIFY GOD.** If we are living in such a way that our lives are not **GLORIFYING** God we are failing to fulfill our purpose.

1 Peter 4:14-16; When you are persecuted for the name of Jesus, the Spirit of **GLORY** and of God rests on you. When you suffer for Christ with a _____ attitude, you are **GLORIFYING** God and fulfilling your **PURPOSE.**

2 Thessalonians 1:11-12; It is God's intention for the name of Jesus to be **GLORIFIED** as we submit our lives to His Lordship and control. If our carnal nature dominates His Lordship, He will not be **GLORIFIED** in our lives.

1 Peter 4:11; Everything we do should be through the **ABILITY** that God provides us with so that He can be **GLORIFIED** through us.

Hebrews 1:3; PRINCIPLE #7. Jesus was the RADIANCE/EFFULGENCE of God's glory and the exact representation of His nature. When you saw Jesus you were seeing GOD in the FLESH. Jesus testified of that in John 14, but God's **PURPOSE** for exhibiting the visible manifestation of His **PRESENCE** did not _____ when Jesus ascended back to heaven.

John 17:4; PRINCIPLE #8. Jesus GLORIFIED the Father on earth by accomplishing the work God sent Him to do. Part of that work was in _____ the nature and character of the Father wherever He went.

John 14:9 – "If you have SEEN me you have SEEN the Father."

John 20:21 – "As the Father has _____ so send I you."

PRINCIPLE #9. Our lives are designed by the Creator to ASCRIBE GLORY to Him. GLORY is ascribed to God as we allow our lives to reveal His nature, character and _____ to others.