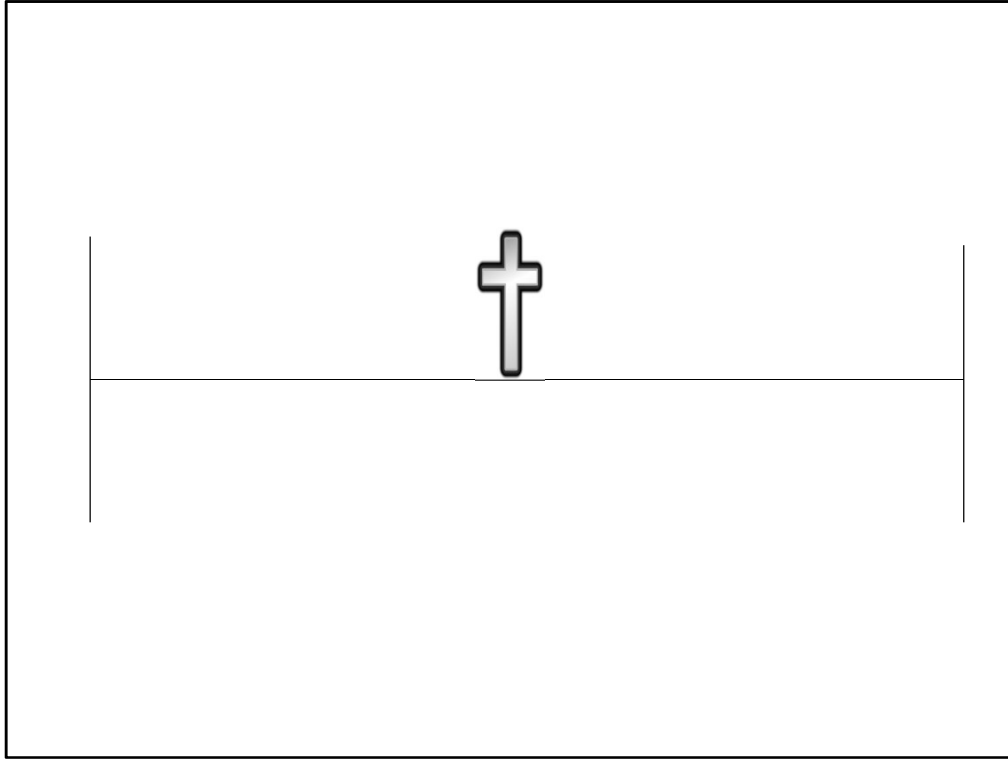


First of all, let me say welcome to our class on The Eternal Plan. I'm so glad you are here and eager to jump into this fascinating topic of God's eternal plan for man.

Let's lay down some ground rules before we begin.

1. I will have a blank sheet of paper and pens laying on the table.
2. I want to encourage you to take notes.
3. I want begin each class working on a sheet of paper that looks like this (show it on next slide), and we will add to it each week. You will understand why we are doing this later on.



Every week we will all have a sheet of paper that looks like this. My goal is for us to fill this sheet in with details that will help us see God's Eternal Plan, and be able to show God's eternal plan. (Next slide).

## AN INTRODUCTION

- **Materials borrowed are from two sources; *His Eternal Plan* by Jerry Tallman, and *The Scarlet Thread* by Max Johnson. And obviously The Bible!**
- **The purpose of this study is two fold: A. To educate ourselves (2Tim.3:13-17; Acts 17:10-11). B. To Evangelize others (Mt.28:18-20).**
- **Sometimes the Bible is covered by looking at three dispensations: 1. The Patriarchal. 2. The Mosaic. 3. The Christian.**
- **We will be following a system of study encompassing fifteen various periods throughout the Bible.**

•Discuss materials used and the authors.

•The purpose of the study is two fold. First, we are to educate ourselves. Discuss and read (2Tim.3:13-17; Acts 17:10-11). Second, it is to evangelize others (Mt.28:18-20). This chart that we are going to be working on will be the key to us fulfilling those purposes.

•A system of study for the Bible can be broken down into three dispensations; The Patriarchal (covers Gen.1 to Ex.19). The Mosaic (covers Ex.20 to Acts 1). The Christian Dispensation (covers Acts 2-Rev.20). The word dispensation simply means a religious system or cod of commands considered to have been divinely revealed or appointed.

•We will be approaching our study looking at Periods, rather than Dispensations. The reason for that is it fits our model much better than looking at large gaps of time.

## BIBLE PERIODS

- **The Antediluvian**
- **The Postdiluvian**
- **The Patriarchal**
- **Egyptian Bondage**
- **Wilderness Wanderings**
- **Conquest of Canaan**
- **The Judges**
- **The United Kingdoms**
- **The Divided Kingdoms**
- **The Kingdom of Judah**
- **The Babylonian Captivity**
- **The Return of the Exiles**
- **Between the Testaments**
- **The Life of Christ**
- **The Church of Christ**

(Read them).

I do not intend to look at the details for each and every period. However, we will be looking the major details while we keep our eyes open for God's reminder of His Eternal Plan. Believe or not, all of the above will be covered on our diagram (cross in center of page paper).

So, let's begin to talk about God's Eternal Plan as it relates to all fifteen periods of the Bible and us.

First, what is your understanding of that phrase, "God's Eternal Plan?" In other words, why is it suggested that God had an eternal plan? What does that mean?

## QUESTIONS ABOUT “THE ETERNAL PLAN”

- **What does that mean?**
- **What was God’s plan?**
- **Why wouldn’t God create a plan as situations dictate them?**
- **ANSWER: God’s attributes and character allows Him to know things before they ever occur.**

(Read all bullets).

Wait a minute Scott, are you saying that God knew things were going to happen before they ever happened? For example, God knew Adam and Eve were going to sin? ABSOLUTELY! Where is our proof? (2Pt.1:17-25 read it).

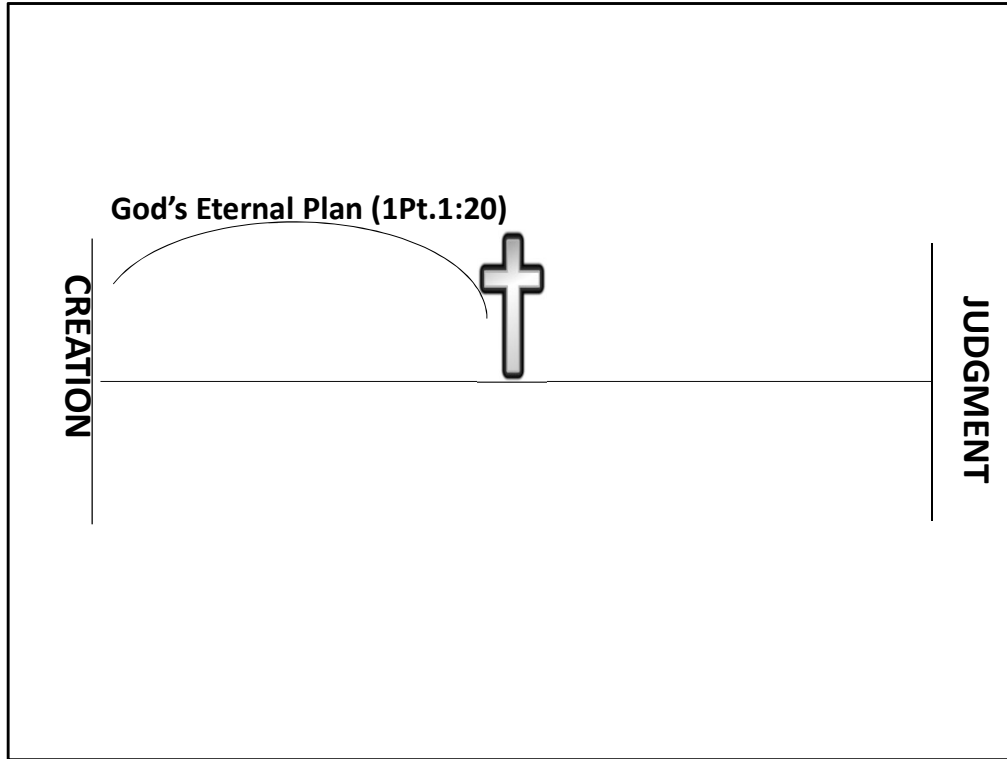
## 2 PETER 1:17-25

- **We are redeemed by the blood of Christ v.19**
- **We believe in God v.21**
- **We believe in God's Son, and He was raised from the dead v.21**
- **We were born again by obedience to the Word of God vv.22-23**
- **God 's Word will remain forever true v.25**
- **God's plan to redeem man was set in motion "before the foundation of the world" v.20**

(Read bullets).

In other words, God knew what was going to happen before it ever happened. God has that ability!

So here is what I want you to do. Take out your diagram and do this



(Reveal Diagram).

What is the very vertical line on this page and what does it say? CREATION.

Creation introduces us to the very first PERIOD. It's known as the...

## ANTEDILUVIAN PERIOD

- **From Creation to the Flood**
- **Covers Gen.1 to Gen.5**
  - **Creation in seven days**
  - **The Story of Eden**
  - **Cain and Abel**
  - **The Genealogy: Adam to Noah**
  - **The Promised Seed (Gen.3:15)**

The word Antediluvian means before the flood. As we look at each of these periods, I want to remind you of God's grand scheme of redemption and let's look and see if God provides us with any hint of Him working His plan.

(Show first two bullets and tell the Antediluvian Story)

So where in all of this do you see God reminding us of His Eternal Plan? (Gen.3:15).

Here is what I want you to do for next week. I want you to read Gen.6-11. This will cover our second Period, known as the Postdiluvian Period. I want you to look for a passage, image, or even that might tip us off to the fact that God is keeping His Eternal Plan in play.