

# God's Plan and Purpose for Creation

**A Purposeful People for a Purposeful God**

# Sovereign Godhead

**The Father**

**The Son**

**The Spirit**

**Initiates**

**Communicates**

**Activates**

**The Plan**

**The Word**

**The Action**

# The Earth

**Prepared as a dwelling place for man**

**To tend as provision**

**To procreate and subdue**

**A nursery for His children**

**A place to prepare a Bride for His Son**

# **Mankind**

**Created and set apart**

**Mankind was created and set apart (sanctified) to love and to worship.  
The church - a people gathered together for one purpose. Ekklesia  
To love God with all the heart, mind and strength.**

## **John 1:1-5**

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He (Jesus) was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made... without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but darkness has not comprehended it.**

# Seven Pictures of the church

**From Ephesians**

1. The Assembly	Ephesians	1:22
2. The Body	Eph.	1:22,23
3. The Workmanship	Eph.	2:10
4. The Family	Eph.	2:19,14
5. The Temple	Eph.	2:20
6. The Bride	Eph.	5:25
7. The Army	Eph.	6:10-13

## **1. The Assembly**

Eph 1:22 And God placed all things under his (Jesus) feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church. (Ekklesia)

The Church – The Ekklesia

An Assembly- gathering of people

The called out ones

Jesus gave authority to his church

The church can use its delegated authority to affect change  
in the world



## **2. The Body**

Ephesians 1:22,23

And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him over everything for the church which is his body the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

### **3. The Workmanship Eph 2:10**

For we are God's Workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do good works which he prepared in advance for us to do.

## 4. The Family

Ephesians 2:19 and 14

<sup>19</sup>Consequently you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens With God's people and members of God's household. <sup>14</sup>For he himself is our peace who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility.

(Jew and Gentiles)

## **5. The Temple**

Ephesians 2:20

Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

A place for him to live – Christ in us.

## 6. The Bride

### Ephesians 5:25 – 32

<sup>25</sup>. Husbands love your wives, just as **Christ loved the church** and gave himself up for her to **make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the Word** <sup>27</sup>. and present her to himself as a **radiant church with out stain or wrinkle or any other blemish**, but **holy and blameless** <sup>28</sup>. In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself <sup>29</sup> after all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, **just as Christ does the church**, for we are members of his body. <sup>30</sup>. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united with his wife, and the two will become one flesh. But this is a profound mystery – **but I am talking about Christ and the church**

## 7. The Army

Ephesians 6:10-13

<sup>10</sup> Finally be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armour of God so that you can take your stand against the Devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms, therefore put on the full armour of God so that you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything to stand.

# **Redemption**

The starting gun

The cross – Jesus's sacrifice and resurrection is the foundation for the church age which is where we are today

# God's Purpose For Redeeming His People To Prepare

1. A people for himself – called out ones – sanctified
2. To bring His kingdom on earth

A special relationship – a deep personal, loving and unique – like no other.

**Redemption** - initial, essential transformation.

Ongoing TRANSFORMATION.

How does he do it?



# Transformation

How does he do it?

Through the ongoing WORD in and through a believer

This is the picture of the church – The ekklesia.

- The Assembly
- The Body
- The Workmanship
- The Family
- The Temple
- The Bride
- The Army

# How does the church function?

By

- Prayer
- Teaching the Word
- Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Eph.4:12 tells us - "to equip the saints for works of service" How does this happen? V. 11 – 13 Read LB

- to prepare us for the market place –
- to reach the lost
- to build up the Body of Christ

## **The Gospel**

Takes fallen mankind through redemption and sanctification via the cross to transform through the washing of the Word – enabling the impossible task possible to worship a Holy God in Spirit and truth

**----- Know This -----**

**You are an integral part of God's loving plan**

**You are important to Him – every one**

**You have been chosen and are being equipped**

**You belong to a purposeful God**

**Who created you on purpose**

**For a purpose**

**I hope you realise this today AMEN**