

I. Review

Last week we looked at another incredible aspect to God's plan that is revealed through His creation. One of the things that I try to do for you as your pastor is that I am not just interested in frivolously getting up and giving you a sermon to make you feel good or to give you some kind of spiritual prescription. I want to teach you the Bible. No sermon that any preacher preaches to make you feel good or to give you a little spiritual prescription will ever take the place of you as a child of God knowing and understanding your Bible. When God gave us the word of God, He gave it to us personally. It is your handbook that God gave to you as an individual and all of us collectively, that shows us the guide that God has for our lives. Nothing will take the place of that. One of the things I try to do to help you in your spiritual growth process and in your relationship with Christ is to show you how easy it is to learn the word of God and understand God.

Knowing God for most Christians today is a joke. It is all the surface aspects that you have been programmed for years and years. Going to a church that never builds anything in your relationship with Him. You get a lot of information; you hear a lot of sermons. But understanding God is when you personally get involved with the Book that God gave you. My job is to help you do that and to show you how easy it is. Because you are always told that understanding the Bible and knowing God is way beyond your reach. And that you need some spiritual guru someplace that can break down the Bible. No, no. God wrote a book that is so simple that even I can understand it as dumb as I am. Hey, I was in the seventh grade so long the kids brought me the apple. They thought I was the teacher. You can learn it too. That is my job. My Job is to take something that looks complicated and show you how easy it is.

➤ The Manifold Wisdom of God – the breadth, and length, and depth, and height

In the book of Ephesians, which is the most intimate book in the Bible to us in the New Testament, on our understanding God, Christ, and His plan for us. In Ephesians 3:17-18 you will find a great verse that is literally unknown today as far as somebody understanding what we should know about God.

He starts in that chapter in verse 9 and he is talking about the mystery of the church that was hidden in God all through the Old Testament. He says in verse 10 that we are to know, you and I as New Testament Christians in a New Testament church, the manifold wisdom of God.

Manifold has many sections that lead to whatever. On your car you have a manifold, and that manifold has ways in but it all comes into the carburetor in one place. For you the manifold wisdom of God comes in from different aspects, but it all winds up in your life of understanding God. Then he says in verse 17:

17. *That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,*
18. *May be able to comprehend with all saints what [is] **the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;***

The manifold wisdom of God in your life and my life will give you four dimensions of God that each one of them is a key to understanding Him. What is the breadth of God? I am not talking about breath out of your mouth. I am talking about breadth as far as width. What is the length of God? What is the depth of God and what is the height of God? We used to sing the song as kids in Sunday School, so high you can't get over Him, so wide you can't get around Him. You got to come through the door. That is based on the Bible. You are told as a child of God that you should comprehend, not just know. Knowing is different than comprehending. We are to comprehend. That means we are to understand these four things about God. Most of God's people have no clue what they are. That's okay because by the time we are done with this, you are going to understand it. Yet at the same time, God's people across the board pretend to know God and then really have no clue who He really is. They know what they have been told to believe. They have heard the same sermon years after years with no depth to the breadth of God, the length of God, the depth of God and the height of God that we are to comprehend. We are to understand! The answer to these four questions, God's manifold wisdom, will be found in the patterns of who He is. I have told you over and over again and have tried as we have grown as a church spiritually, to get you to the point where you understand that patterns in the Bible will be key to everything.

➤ God Established Himself as the Perfect Pattern

Yesterday we had our Patterns Class. I am taking the upper echelon of men and women who are working with me in ministry. You can get online and go through it too if you want. But what I am giving them is every pattern of human nature. In the ministry and life everything breaks down into a pattern. You should have seen that from last week. For example: God establishing Himself as a perfect pattern in so many ways, but let's look at just one for a moment in our personal relationship. How do you build a personal relationship with Christ? Most people think, most pastors teach, you just get saved and come to church and somewhere in the process you will figure it out. No, no, that is not how it works. You have to follow the pattern that God gave us in having a relationship with Him. Because He is the perfect pattern. You take our relationship with God. Father, Son relationship. What pattern do you have for that? That will be Christ in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John in His relationship to God the Father. That is why God brought Him into this world as a son, and He looked to God as His father. Even though they are one in the same. But He has given us a pattern that Christ to God His father and all the things that they have in common together is a picture of what we ought to have. How about understanding ministry? That would be Matthew, Mark, Luke and John at the first coming of Christ. How Christ dealt with people. God's people are famous for doing everything in Christianity differently than Christ did it when He showed up. We don't treat people like Christ did. You will find that He is the pattern. You will find our understanding of God's handling of chastisement through disobedience. You see this in the pattern with God and the nation of Israel. You can apply all those patterns he gives so we understand how to have that with God.

We were talking about missions and the missionaries that we are working with and yet our pattern for missions is God leaving the throne of heaven in the form of Jesus Christ, coming to a foreign culture, identifying with that culture to give them the truth of God. He was the first and greatest missionary.

➤ God's Perfect Creation Based on a Perfect Pattern

Last week when it comes to God's perfect creation, I showed you that it was based on a perfect pattern. God Himself, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit forms in everything in life as a pattern of threes. I don't know how many I gave you last week, but there are hundreds and hundreds more that we could have looked at. You will remember that I gave you two incredible verses found in the New Testament that really show you all of this. The first one is found in Romans 1:19-20, where it says in verse 20:

20. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, [even] his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

There I showed you learning everything about God comes down to Him using Himself as the pattern for creation. You see everything that He did that is invisible by the things He created. Then I gave you Colossians 1:16-17

16. For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether [they be] thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

17. And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

I showed you there that all things were created by Him and for Him for the express purpose of revealing Himself to the world through His perfect pattern of Himself. Two of the greatest verses in the Bible that begin the foundation of understanding those four concepts of God.

II. Psalms 19:1-6

Today, I want to look at again, Psalms 19 verses 1-6 and we are going to see yet again another element in this passage.

*1. The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.
2. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.
3. [There is] no speech nor language, [where] their voice is not heard.
4. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,
5. Which [is] as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, [and] rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.
6. His going forth [is] from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.*

To understand where I am going today, I think it is important for you to see a broader picture of what we have been talking about in Psalms 19, the establishment of God's government and overall plan. Most of God's people go through their whole Christian life and never understand anything about God's plan. I don't know what they think about it or why they didn't get it. But they seem to go through life without any understanding of the overall plan that God has put before us, that you and I are a part of. It is like all we know about it is getting up in the morning going to work, raising kids, and paying the bills. Doing this, doing that, taking the dog out. But we never understand in the overall scheme of God's plan where we fit.

➤ God Created Earth to be Inhabited

Take plant Earth, in Isaiah 45:18 is the key verse on planet Earth, and we will be talking about this more as we get through this in the weeks to come.

*For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, **he formed it to be inhabited**: I [am] the LORD; and [there is] none else. Isaiah 45:18*

This verse tells us that when God created the heavens and everything, that He Himself formed the Earth and the Bible says that He created it to be inhabited. It is the only planet that He says that about. If you notice all the other nine planets are named after pagan gods. But God chose to call what we live on planet Earth. It is an incredible thing how God pulled the Earth out of the scheme of things and put it where He put it. I am going to show you how that happened in a couple of weeks. In God's plan He formed the Earth Himself, but He created it to be inhabited. Because God has a plan and purpose for planet Earth. Earth will be the start in time of His government like I laid out for you last week in Isaiah 9:6-7. Then once that government starts, we know the increase of that government will be no end and it moves on out through eternity.

III. God Has Three Plans

I haven't mentioned this for a long time, but understanding the whole scheme of God and what He is doing comes down to God has three plans.

1.) God Has a Plan for the Universe.

God has a plan for the universe, the second heaven filled with the stars, the galaxy's, all the planets. Science has no idea or clue! Now they find because our technology and our telescopes are getting better, all these hundreds and hundreds of planets out there that they call exoplanets. Exo because they are way outside our solar system. When they measure them, they are huge. They are searching because they are sure that on one of those planets there has to be intelligent life. I hope so because there is no intelligent life on Earth anymore. But they have it backwards. Those planets are out there for when God puts His government in play. God has a plan for the universe. The millions of galaxies and billions of planets. I remember back in the day when they came up with the Hubble telescope. That was the first one that they sent up into space. Once they got it working somebody had the idea to take that telescope and focus it on a minute part of the second heaven, outer space. They left the camera open and the longer the light came in, the

more the picture grabbed images. They left the camera open for twenty-four hours. I could take you out tonight and we could take a pin and on the head of a pin we could block out that portion of the sky. When they developed that one little piece of sky was over one hundred thousand galaxies that were bigger than the ones we live in. They are everywhere. There is a reason for that. You know what that is? God has a plan for the second heaven!

2.) God Has a Plan for Planet Earth

The second plan is God has a plan for planet Earth. I told you in Isaiah 45 He formed the Earth to be inhabited. It is the only planet with life. So, God has a plan for the universe. God has a plan for the Earth which is in the second heaven or the universe and then God has a plan for your life.

3.) God Has a Plan for Your Life

You are on this planet in this universe, and you cannot separate one out of these three. God's overall plan has a plan for the second heaven; He has a plan for Earth. You are living on the Earth and God has a plan for your life. Most of God's people **never** in all the years that they are saved ever figure out what that plan is. Let alone His plan for the universe and His plan for Earth. Earth has two types of life outside animal and plant life. It has the physical life of man and then God provided the spiritual life for man and God inhabited it for a purpose. There are some things that I want you to understand. I realize in a crowd like this you got people at all spiritual levels, so I am going to make this as easy as I can. It is not going to be complicated. I am going to speak through it just like I had to learn it. But I think there are some things that as we are coming through here in the weeks to come you need to understand.

➤ What was God's Original Plan?

What was God's original plan going all the way back to Genesis 1,2 and 3? God's plan was to have a universe (second heaven) filled and populated with people who would fill the expanse of eternity, and have fellowship with God in a kingdom of peace and love, and complete perfect harmony with God. That was His original plan, but **God will not force anybody to love Him.** God won't force you to get saved. He will send the Holy Spirit of God to tug on your heartstrings. He will send people in your life, but ultimately if you ever trust Christ as your personal savior, or you have trusted Christ as your personal savior, you had to make that choice yourself. God didn't concoct as the old 50's song says, love potion number nine, that you drink it and then you fall in love with somebody. **God made man a free will.** He won't program man's mind or heart to accept Him. It was God's original plan, so He put Adam and Eve down in the garden. Adam and Eve are in a garden, no sickness, no disease, perfect weather, perfect situation. He named all the animals. There was nothing else there, it was Adam and Eve and God. What were they told? Be fruitful, multiply, replenish the Earth. No pain in childbearing, no hospitals, no funeral homes, no sickness, no illness. They would have had kids and people who were living 800-900 years old. What would have happened to planet Earth after 900 years if she could have had 20 kids per year? In 900 years, what would one person having just five kids a year produce with their kids growing up, everybody living to 900 years? Well, this Earth

would have been completely packed. There are a lot of people out there that don't think past that point. They don't even think of what the great commission was to Adam. They think God put it in play down here and one day God walked into the throne room and all the angels said, "Hey Lord, we got a problem, Earth is full down there, what are we going to do?" God says, "Oh I never thought of that." God has a plan. Isaiah 9:6-7 says of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end. Adam and Eve in the garden was the test case. It also shows you because when you go back to your Bible it starts in a garden, and it shows you in Revelation 22 that it ends in a garden. It is a complete circle. But God will not force somebody to love him. If you go to heaven, it is because you chose to go. If you go out into eternity with God to be part of this government, it is because you chose that. God is not going to force you to do that.

➤ God Created the Devil for a Purpose & Specifically for God's Use

In Proverbs 16:4 another unknown verse to most of God's people. The Bible tells us that God created the devil for a purpose and specifically for God's use. Because God now needed an alternative that would force man and give him a choice.

The LORD hath made all [things] for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil.

If you ever want to study the devil in your Bible, you might know it would be three. There are three ways you study the devil. He fits into three categories in your Bible. So, God puts man down in the garden, perfect weather, no labor, food right there on the ground. He doesn't have to do anything. No sickness, no disease, no wild animals, no death. All God wants is to fellowship with Him. But God will always give us a choice. You know what happened in Genesis 3? The devil shows up and now man has fallen into a sinful state. Man is alienated from God. Separated from God and as Romans 5:12 says as sin came into the world by one man, sin was passed on to all men that all have sinned.

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: Romans 5:12

I had a guy ask me one time who thought he was smart. He was educated, but education doesn't mean you are smart. He said to me "So what you are telling me is that God is going to judge me for my sin." I said that is correct. And he says, "But you are also telling me that God who created it all allowed sin to come into the world." I said that is also correct. Then he says "Well then if God allowed sin to come into the world how am I responsible for that sin? And how can God ever judge me for my sin if he allowed sin to come into the world in the first place?"

He asked that question like that meant something. All that did was show how stupid he really was. I looked at him and said, "You know what, God allowed sin to come into the world to give man a choice, but the same God who let it come in is the same God who sent His Son down to die that you could get out if you make the right choice." Don't put this on God!

Adam and Eve are in the garden at 404 BC and from this point on for the next 6,000 years (according to Ushers chronology found in your King James 1611 authorized version) God has put a hold on His eternal plan, His original plan. This hold will be called "time". It is based on the pattern found in Genesis 1:2 where God created everything in six days and rested on the

seventh. When you get over there in Exodus where he gives the ten commandments, he tells them that man is going to be on this Earth for 6,000 years. That is why Israel rested on the seventh. It is a picture of the establishment of God's government. It is just that simple.

➤ God is Reaching out to a Fallen Creation to Restore them Back to Fellowship with God

For the next 6,000 years, God reaches out to a fallen creation to restore him back to fellowship with God. He does that through what we call in the Bible dispensations. Times where God deals with men differently, but all for the same purpose, to bring them back to Himself. Then at some point in time, God will put an end to time and come back at the second coming to establish His government and we move on with the plan. The plan of God populating the universe.

My point is this, down through history of 6,000 years God reveals His glory five different ways to man. Five different ways that God reveals His glory and God's glory is Jesus Christ. Five different ways that He reveals God, His glory, Jesus Christ through the element of time. I want you to understand this today. We won't get through them all today, but we will get a good start on it. I want you to understand this because if you are going to figure this whole thing out, the manifold wisdom of God, you got to get these down. At the end of 6,000 years when God picks up His eternal program after time, everything that God created will have made a free will choice to be with God and in His government for all eternity. The angels made a choice in Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28. The cherubims made a choice in Ezekiel 1. The seraphims have to make their choice and man, you and me, we had to make our choice.

Now God moves on and establishes His unending government without any need for love potion number nine. Every man, every woman that fills the expanse of eternity when God picks up His program, will be there because they chose to be there. The Holy Spirit of God revealed to you God's love. He revealed to you that you were a sinner. He revealed to you that because one man back in the garden made a bad choice, you have made bad choices, and we are all guilty of sin. But the same God who allowed the devil to come into the world and thrust man and the world into sin and destruction, is the same God that came down and made a way to take us out. But it is your choice. It is your choice.

What I am about to show you will give you an incredible understanding of the manifold wisdom of God. After the fall starting in Genesis, chapter 4, God starts the work and the action of redeeming man from the fall in Genesis 3. From the Old Testament all the way through, God now enters into a work to restore fallen man back to God Himself. Through man's history those 6,000 years all of man's nations, his kingdoms, his kings, his queens, his presidents. His monarchs, his prime ministers, all the principalities and powers, all the different countries and cultures. God through the Holy Spirit of God will draw men and women to Himself and in time He will go back to His original plan. But this time it will be a sinless population. It won't be like Adam and Eve in the garden. There will be no choice to do wrong. You already made your choice when you trusted Christ. Now your sins are eradicated, and you are spotless before God. So, when He starts this one it is different than the other one. But He had to give man a choice in Genesis 3. He doesn't have to give us a choice in eternity. We made the choice in this life. I

don't know if you are saved here this morning, but if you are, you made the choice, you made the right choice. You made the greatest choice of your life and that was to trust Jesus Christ as your own personal savior. Because you had a sin debt based on Genesis 3.

IV. Five Ways God Reveals His Glory, Jesus Christ

Today I want to show you five ways down through history that God reveals His glory which is Jesus Christ to man on Earth. When we look at the Bible saying the heavens declare the glory of God, that glory will be found in Jesus Christ. Over the next couple of weeks, I want to lay out for you the five ways that He does that.

1.) God Will Reveal His Glory, Jesus Christ Through His Creation

First off, we talked about this in Romans 1:19-20 and Colossians 1:16-17. God will reveal His glory, Jesus Christ through His creation. Within the second heaven, where the stars, planets, galaxies, nebulas, sun, and moon. God takes those stars from the position of planet Earth and He forms the stars into what we call constellations.

➤ God Has Set His Witness in the Sky—The Glory of Christ in the Heavens

God has set His witness in the sky and the glory of Christ in the heavens by the placing of the stars. You have twelve constellations which are commonly called the zodiac. The Earth is a sphere, and the twelve constellations are around this sphere called planet Earth. There are twelve of them. The reason why there are twelve is because in time when we get into the government, God is going to divide that second heaven up according to the twelve tribes of the nation of Israel. Those constellations will be one connected to each tribe. That is down the road a bit. Each one will tell a story of the Bible.

If I could take you out on a starry night, I could point out first, the North Star because that is where you have to start. But then I would tell you that there are two norths on planet Earth. You have what is called magnetic north. If you got a compass out, you would find that compass would turn north. North is magnetic north based on the magnetic north pole. If you want to find God, Psalms 76 you got to go to true north somewhere beyond that north star. Now there it is again, isn't it! You have a choice in life. You either follow the north through your compass of life that points to this world, or you throw that away and you guide your life by true north where the Lord is. See how easy that is? Up around the north star you will find a constellation called Corona Borealis, translated out it is called the Northern Crown. Then you will find around the north, this constellation coming around circling the north and its head is trying to devour the crown. Do you know what that constellation is? It is Serpens the Serpent, and it is a picture what you find in the Bible that the devil circles the north, and he wants to devour the crown which belongs to Jesus Christ.

If I wanted to win you to Christ, I would take you out and show you the constellation Cygnus which is up right now. The brightest star in Cygnus is Deneb. It is in the center. Cygnus is

called in Greek mythology, the Swan. But in the Bible, it is called the Northern Cross. There it is up there in the sky a big old cross. If I wanted to win you to Christ and I am out in a starry sky I would point to that and then I would preach the gospel to you based on the cross of Christ dying on the cross for you. You would say, “Ha, ha, I got you Bob! What if we were down in the southern hemisphere?” Well God didn’t forget that either because down there is the Southern Cross. It is smaller so I would have to preach a shorter message. You got Draco the Dragon Isaiah 27:1, the great dragon. You got Virgo the Virgin; that is Mary. You got Hercules and Orion both connected with the antichrist in Genesis 6 and also in the book of Job. You got Argo the Ark. You got Euphrates the River and don’t forget this; you got Perseus and Andromeda. In Greek mythology Andromeda is a woman. Perseus is her lover. Then you have Scorpius the Scorpion. In Greek mythology, Kraken the sea monster is after Andromeda and wants to devour her. But Perseus comes to her rescue. In the Bible, Andromeda is me and you in the church. Perseus is the Lord Jesus Christ and the Serpens is the dragon that wants to devour you. Guess who saved us? His witness in the sky declaring God’s glory. Each one will tell a story of the Bible. I will lay that all out completely in a couple of weeks.

God made the Earth a globe. He made it a sphere and then He put these constellations around the earth so 24 hours a day, broken down into two 12-hour sections. At night as the Earth rotates on its axis it will start at sunset in the east and then as the night goes and as the Earth rotates those constellations are a panoramic coming across that sky come up over the horizon up over the top and completely lay themselves out by dawn. His witness in the sky. You get it every night. During the day you have the sun. The sun is a type of Jesus Christ, Malachi 4:2 talks about the second coming of Christ and it says, “*the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings.*” talking about Christ. But son is spelled S-U-N. Three types of rays come from the sun. That is God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. So, you get the picture all day long. When an eclipse takes place a solar eclipse everybody gets so excited. Well, I do too. Science says the Earth is passing between this and it is blocking out that and all this stuff. Well, the bottom line is all you have got there is anytime the world gets in between you and the sun, your light is going out. The heavens declare the glory of God. Now the devil counterfeits that with the Egyptian, Babylonian, and the Greek mythology. Astrology and all satanic counterfeit to take from God, His glory that the devil can get the glory for himself.

2.) God Will Reveal His Glory, Through the Nation of Israel

The second thing. So now you have a better understanding of how the heavens do declare their glory of God. *Day unto day uttereth speech and night unto night sheweth knowledge* (Psalms 19:2). Remember back there? Now you know a little bit. Wait until we get into it. The second thing God will get honor and glory out of will be the nation of Israel. Turn over to Isaiah 46:13

*I bring near my righteousness; it shall not be far off, and my salvation shall not tarry: and I will place salvation in **Zion for Israel my glory.***

There it is! The nation of Israel will be one of the greatest miracles on planet Earth that you have ever seen in your life and certainly in the Bible. There is no other nation on Earth in the history of man that can begin to compare with the nation of Israel. This is why they are hated today and

why the devil hates Israel. He runs the world today, the god of this world. He wants Israel wiped out because he knows that Israel is going to get the inheritance that once belonged to him before he fell. God calling a people out of this world and making them His people. Did you ever stop and wonder why it was Israel? Why wasn't it America? Why wasn't it France or Germany? Why did He pick the nation of Israel. The answer to that is found very clearly in the Bible. You got to go to work on it to try to find out why that is and why He didn't pick us.

➤ **God Gave the Jew (Israel) in a Discriminatory Racist way, Physical Blessings that He Gave no Other Nation**

We talk a lot about racism today. Every time something doesn't go right with somebody, well you are a racist. They play the race card up one side and down the other. We have got laws in this country against discrimination, and everybody is against certain people being discriminated against. Everybody is against certain races except when it comes to the Jew. Look at Columbia University and Harvard. What they don't get is you know who the biggest racist in the history of the world is? It is God. He is a racist. He took one group of people and said they are my people and the rest of you can go to hell. Whoa, that is racism, that is discrimination. Then He said, okay, if you want to go to heaven and you want to have a relationship with me, well you got to go and become a Jew. In the Old Testament you realize they got an Old Testament Bible called the Masoretic Text? It runs from Genesis to Malachi. A little different in their set up than ours but you know in the Old Testament there was no Hittite version of the Old Testament. There was no Moabite version of the Old Testament. There was just Hebrew Old Testament. You know why? Because anybody back there had to come to God through Israel. That is racist! But when you are God and you create it all for yourself you can be whatever you want to be. There is so much about God that God's people don't know about, yet they claim to be His people. The only body on earth that God recognized you had to become a Jewish proselyte. You will find this in the book of Ruth. She was a Moabite, and she came to marry the love of her life, Boaz. But she had to leave her people. We use it at weddings all the time. Your people become my people, and she became a Jew.

God gave them a piece of land. That piece of land is called the land of Palestine. It is called the promised land in the Bible, the land of milk and honey. It is called Beulah land and that piece of land stretched 1300 miles in a form of a triangle from Egypt to Ur of Chaldees and then up to southern Turkey where Mount Ararat was. You know when Noah was in the flood and the flood wiped out the whole world, God wanted to start it over. He had three boys, Shem, Ham and Japheth. Those three boys were going to repopulate the whole earth and begin the second round of what God was doing. They were on that ark for three hundred some days and suddenly the water begins to abate. It begins to go down and the ark comes to rest on a mountain. That mountain is Mount Ararat right at the top of that land grant. When Noah's three boys came out and down to repopulate the earth they came right down through that land grant. Ham goes to Africa. Japheth goes to Europe and Shem the Jew, stays in that land grant. It is not hard! You guys play video games that is harder than this!

God gave the nation of Israel, the Jew in a discriminatory racist way, physical blessings that He gave no other nation. You find them in Leviticus. He gave them spiritual blessings that He gave

no other nation. You find those in Leviticus and Exodus. Then God gave them the unconditional promise because they are His people. *For the gifts and calling of God [are] without repentance. Romans 11:29* Incredible! God had a plan for Israel in the Old Testament to bring God's glory to the whole world. You will see when Israel reaches its high point with David and Solomon, this will be 1,000 BC. All the world is coming to see the glory of God that is found within the nation of Israel. In I Kings 6 when Solomon builds the temple he builds that temple in Jerusalem which is its capital. All the world will come to see God's glory in that temple. You know how the devil counterfeits that? Go to Jerusalem today and there is no temple of the Lord. You know who is on the temple site over there? David in 2 Samuel 24 bought that land on which the temple was built. But the Muslims have it now. It is called The Dome of the Rock. That is the original temple site where Solomons temple was built and when God, Christ's temple, will be built again. Somebody counterfeited that.

Let me give you a quick glimpse of some things here. Come back to 1 Kings 4:29

And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that [is] on the sea shore. 1Kings 4:29

Wow, that is pretty good! He did that for Solomon in the Old Testament. But God wants to do that for you in the New Testament. The difference is most of God's people don't want it. They don't do what they have got to do to get it. So, they go through life like the rat in the proverbial maze. Where there is cheese at the end and they got to sniff their way through hitting dead ends and moving around. Hopefully someday they will make it. As a child of God understanding the wisdom of God that He gave Solomon, that you can have too! Because it is in this Book, you have a direct shot.

30.And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt.

31.For he was wiser than all men; than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol: and his fame was in all nations round about.

32.And he spake three thousand proverbs: and his songs were a thousand and five.

You don't have that many in your Book. You know what that tells me? He said 3,000 proverbs. You don't have nearly that many in your Bible. You know what that tells me? He picked the ones that He wanted us to have. What did we do with it?

33.And he spake of trees, from the cedar tree that [is] in Lebanon even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall: he spake also of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fishes.

He is able to take everything in God's creation from trees to fishes to beasts to everything and show people how it is all in God's creation to God's glory. You know what? We ought to be able to do that too!

34.And there came of all people to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all kings of the earth, which had heard of his wisdom.

The glory of God at this time is all across the world to every nation. But it all comes back to Israel. God's wisdom through Solomon excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east. There's Muhammad, Confucianism, all of them! His fame was in all nations round about. He spoke 3,000 proverbs. He wrote 1,005 songs. You only got one. But the one He gave you is from Him to you. Wow!

➤ God's Form of Worship was Through the Temple to Glorify Him

God's form of worship was through the temple to glorify Him. We have come a long way from the glory of God in the temple to worship Him to the idols in the Old Testament and the American idols on TV. He can speak about everything that God created and lay it out to God's glory. So should we! All the kings of the earth came to Jerusalem, to Israel.

Here is another place where the word of God gives us a glimpse of this. Come over to 1 Kings 10. Here is a story of a Gentile queen coming to Solomon in Jerusalem. Watch this!

- 1. And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning **the name of the LORD**, (Do you see that? She came to prove him with hard questions. She is the first woman in the Bible that proves all things. Then she held fast to that which is good.) she came to prove him with hard questions.*
- 2. And she came to Jerusalem with a very great train, with camels that bare spices, and very much gold, and precious stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart.*
- 3. And Solomon told her all her questions: there was not [any] thing hid from the king, which he told her not.*
- 4. And when the queen of Sheba had seen all Solomon's wisdom, and the house that he had built,*
- 5. And the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel, and his cupbearers, and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the LORD; there was no more spirit in her.*
- 6. And she said to the king, It was a true report that I heard in mine own land of thy acts and of thy wisdom.*
- 7. Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen [it]: and, behold, the half was not told me: thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard.*
- 8. Happy [are] thy men, happy [are] these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, [and] that hear thy wisdom.*
- 9. Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel: because the LORD loved Israel for ever; therefore made he thee king, to do judgment and justice.*

Wow! The Bible says in verse 13 after her meeting, she went her own way back to her own country, her and her servants. Over a thousand years later in Acts 8:27 there is an Ethiopian eunuch who is out there in the desert. Somebody gave him a copy of a page of Isaiah 53 which

is the blood atonement of Christ dying on a cross in your Old Testament. He found that, somehow, and he is sitting on the back of his chariot reading that. God looked down and saw his heart. Do you know where this guy was going? He is out of Africa, Queen of Sheba, a thousand years ago and it was still resonating down there about the God of Jerusalem and Solomon. The Bible tells you in Acts 8 he is on his way to Jerusalem to worship. What does God do? What God always does. Over here in Samaria they are having a revival. He pulls out the lead evangelist, Philip. Drops him down in that desert. Philip goes up to that guy (Ethiopian eunuch) and says do you understand what you are reading? He looks up at him and says how should I except some man guide me. You know what? At that point the Bible says that the Ethiopian eunuch desired Philip to sit with him. Philip opened the same scriptures, Isaiah 53, which is about the blood atonement of Christ dying on the cross, and preached unto him Jesus. He got saved and the Bible says he goes back to his own country rejoicing. Just as the Queen of Sheba when she saw Solomon in the kingdom, went back and rejoiced. Now God has changed up the whole thing because that doesn't work anymore. God gave one missionary back to Africa with a gospel message of Isaiah 53 and that is why today when you go to Africa most of the population is born again. Africa is permeated with saved people.

Here you can clearly see what God is doing with Israel. Israel as a capital nation of the entire world. God's glory, Christ flowing through all the world through God's temple in Jerusalem. This is 1,000 BC in our story here. It lasts for 40 years. You have David coming as the king for 40 years. He wipes out the last of the enemies of Israel. He is a picture of Christ at the second coming. Then Solomon builds the temple. For the next 40 years there is peace in the land. That is a picture of the millennium.

What I am about to tell you, if you don't hear anything else that I said today, listen to what I am about to give you. Why is all this blocked out of history today? Some of you went to college. You all went to high school and junior high. When have you heard what I just said to you taught in history class about God's people? Never! The reason for that is that the devil made sure that Israel would not be remembered for exalting God's glory to the world. The destruction of Israel was through the attack of Satan to destroy God's glory in the Old Testament.

➤ The Devils Goal is to Take the Glory that Belongs to God & Take it for Himself

You better get what I am about to say. The Bible says the heavens declare the glory of God and God has five ways that He demonstrates His glory, Christ to the world. In every one of those cases looking at Israel right now, the devil attacked each one of them and destroyed them. Because the devil's number one goal is to take the glory that belongs to God and take it for himself. You better understand that and look at what Bible you have in your hand today. **Did you hear what I just said?** The devil's number one goal will be to take God's own people who give glory to God and take from them and have those same people, God's people, give glory to the devil.

As we go through these five you will see that is what he does in each one of these cases right up to today. From the end of Solomon to the captivity of 606 BC we see the devil destroying God's

people by bringing in a false religion. By bringing in Baal worship and completely integrating himself into the people. Getting them to lose their love for God and the word of God. Then love the things of the world more than the things of God. Sound familiar? When Israel goes into captivity, the southern tribes go in around 606 BC. The northern tribes, the ten tribes, go in about 721 BC to Assyria and Babylon respectfully.

➤ The Times of the Gentiles

Now we have what is called in Luke 21:24 and also in the book of Daniel, the “times of the Gentiles”

*And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until **the times of the Gentiles** be fulfilled.*

What are the times of the Gentiles? It is when Israel has gotten so far from God that God is finished with her temporarily and He turns the world domination over to the Gentile nations. They are listed for you in Daniel 2. When He does that, guess what! The devil now rewrites history from a Gentile standpoint. As he rewrites history, he writes God’s glory through Israel out of the history books. It is all about the ancient Egyptians, and the different dynasties. The Babylonians, the Macedonians, the Greek Empire, the Roman Empire, and he turns the whole world against a nation that God designed to give God’s salvation and glory to the world. Now the whole world through the devil’s Gentile nations want to wipe out and destroy the greatest nation the world has ever seen and eradicate God’s people. You see it in our own country, Harvard University, the colleges in New York. Don’t tell me about Nazism and the Holocaust. If they could pull it off, the anti-Semites in this country would have another Holocaust against the Jews in this country tomorrow. At some point down the line when God is finished with this thing called time and He is satisfied with these five things, God will have Israel rise again. And God’s glory will be brought to the world in the millennial reign of Christ through the nation of Israel with Christ on the throne and David the prince, Ezekiel 40-48. But in every one of these five areas, the devil will destroy it and counterfeit it in this life. What I have said many, many times, is that all history is nothing more than God moving in His plan and the devil having his plan to stop it. Israel God’s glory, the planet Earth in 606 BC has now ceased to exist. The greatest place in the Bible for you to study that will be Psalms 78. But in Psalms 78:60 God tells you and me that He delivered His glory, Israel into the enemy’s hand. She is done!

60. So that he forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, the tent [which] he placed among men;

*61. And delivered his strength into captivity, and **his glory into the enemy's hand.***

In Lamentations 5:16 it says the crown is gone. She is done.

*The **crown is fallen** [from] our head: woe unto us, that we have sinned!*

Hosea 3:4 says there is no king, there is no prince and there is no sacrifice. It is gone.

*For the children of Israel shall abide many days **without a king**, and **without a prince**, and **without a sacrifice**, and without an image, and without an ephod, and [without] teraphim:*

The devil has taken the Gentile nations, and they will give honor and glory to him instead of God. You see it in every nation on this planet today. You have seen it in every nation down through history. You will want to mark this down because you will see it all through our setting up and understanding these five ways that he does this. The devil wants the glory of God for himself. He found the nation of Israel was just too willing to give it to him.

V. Summary

Today the devil wants to take God's glory for himself. He finds so many of God's people just like Israel that are so willing to give it to him. Psalms 19 will open up an incredible amount of insight on what God is doing, has done, His plan, all three of them for the heavens, the earth and you and me. Yet you look around and you see all the problems in America and all the problems in the world. Don't get despaired folks, it is part of the plan. You got to go through the darkness till the sun comes up. He's only just begun. God is right on schedule. He is doing everything right on the timeline. The question is, have you figured out where you are at in this plan? Back in Noah's day he preached for 120 years that God's judgment was coming. God had him build a tremendous ark, still on Mount Ararat by the way. God gave man 120 years to make a choice to get on that ark. Only eight people out of the world's population at that time might have been seven or eight billion. A very popular phrase that we use today, probably handed out in tracks. It simply says, "Don't miss the boat". I am telling you today, five thousand years later God's people with where God is at and what God is doing, get in church. Learn your Bible and get everything you can. **Don't miss the boat! God judgment is coming!**