

THE MODUS OPERANDI OF THE PLAN OF GOD

Because of some confusion with the original title of this series, Milk Doctrines, we have changed it to its theological term – NEPIOLOGY (study of spiritual development from infancy).

It is actually a better title that separates the three stages of spiritual growth in the Christian Way of Life (CWL)

- **Soteriology** Those doctrines pertaining to Salvation (what just happened) for the “new born” believer, known scripturally as “Milk”, for the infant. (1 Pet.1:23; 2:2).
- **Nepiology** Those doctrines pertaining to taking the infant, through the adolescent stage and onto spiritual maturity. (Heb.5:13).
- **Teleology** Those “meat” doctrines necessary for the believer to reach and maintain the status of a spiritually mature believer. (Heb.5:14; Eph.4:13-14).

Today’s lesson will study seven aspects of the Modus Operandi of the Plan of God.

Last week we studied the doctrine of the Plan of God. We learned that the **Plan of God** is one, all-comprehensive, perfect plan, so designed to include all events and actions related to their causes and conditions.

You ask, ”how can I understand and apply the practically of this study to my Christian ‘walk’? (CWL)

God is complicated, where man is simple to understand. Because I’m after making these studies applicable to your lives, I’m going to try to break it down to where you can first ‘understand it’ and later ‘apply’ it..

1. We will begin by explaining seven phases of the modus operandi of the Plan of God.

- **The Plan**
 - The Godhead developed it in eternity past at what we know as the Eternal Life Conference.
 - Everything necessary for mankind to fulfill that perfect plan is included in that plan.
- **God’s Divine Decrees.**
 - These decrees can have many ‘categories’, all covering any one specific topic.
- **The Directive Will of God**
 - Involves three aspects:
 1. The **Geographical** Will of God
 2. The **Mental** Will of God
 3. The **Operational** Will of God

NOTE: All three have to line up in order for The Plan of God to be evidenced in the believer’s life – in time.
- **The Permissive Will of God**
 - Involves our volition (choice) to submit and obey the Directive Will of God.
 - It’s our Choice! Sometimes He will work with us to accomplish His Plan (recognizing our Spiritual Growth) and then there are times when He won’t, but simply brings in a ‘replacement’ to accomplish the task! He will accomplish His Plan, with or without our participation! (Choice)

- **The Over-ruling Will of God**
 - This will take affect, if and when the believer rejects the Directive Will of God.
 - The Sovereignty of God will shake heaven and earth to get His Decrees accomplished!
- **The Perfect Timing of the Will of God**
 - When God fulfills His Decrees is 100% His choice and doing!
 - God will place that ‘rock’ under your foot before (even as) you put your foot down in your ‘walk’ by faith!
- **The Fulfillment of the Will of God**
 - Will always Glorify Him!

2. A definition of the Divine Decree of God:

Every Divine Decree is all-comprehensive, eternal, and perfect. Not the slightest uncertainty can exist with regards to any one of the smallest events in the fulfillment of that Decree - without the confusion of all events! The single most purpose being to bring glory to God.

3. Any one Decree can have many categories within a specific topic in the Plan of God.

One example is the Decree of the First Advent of Jesus Christ (9 sub-categories):

- Prophecies (Gen.3:15);
- Covenants (Gen.12:1-3);
- Dispensations (John 1:11-13);
- **Incarnation** (Matt.1-2 and Luke 1-3);
- Childhood (Luke 2:40, 52);
- Ministry (Gospels);
- Death, burial and resurrection (Gospels);
- Ascension-session (Acts1:11; Heb.12:2);
- Head of Church (Eph.5:23);
- The Rapture (1 Thess.4:13-18).

4. Another example would be The Decree of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ: (Luke 1-3 and Matt.1-2)

- Gabriel;
- Zachariah;
- Elizabeth;
- Mary;
- Joseph;
- Caesar Augustus;
- Gov. Quirinius;
- The Bethlehem shepherds;
- Simeon ;
- Anna;
- the Magi;
- The Star;
- Herod;
- The religious council
- The death of the Bethlehem boys, two years old and under.