

## **DESIGNED FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS**

**Hope:** elpis – confident expectation, mental image of future expectations, **Faith/Hope** – what you believe to be true is what you expect or are looking for to happen

Eph 1:18	Eyes/heart to know/see what we can safely expect because of our calling in Christ
Rom 5:4-5	Future expectation in Christ developed by spiritual growth as we enter into love of God.
Eph 1: 14	God the Holy Spirit is given as down payment of eternal blessing of God's redemption. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What we experience as bel's in time is just a small part of the whole given in eternity</li></ul>
Heb 6:18-19	Confidence in God's eternal will & His oath (promises) are an anchor of our souls
1Pt 1:13	Keep mind prepared, remain focused, set confidence on grace given when He appears

### **Man's Hopeless Situation**

Adam's Original Sin in destroyed mankind's created (+R) [Perfect Righteousness] causing all of us to be born (-R) [Unrighteous], behind the barrier of 13 judicial charges and under God's judgment. His (Adam's) sin also corrupted our flesh with the sin nature, causing us to be self-centered cp God-centered.

\* **Man is born:**

- spiritually dead,
- separated from God,
- unable to connect with God or His truth,
- incapable of knowing Him or obeying Him,
- knowing nothing, spiritually.
- having needs only He can fulfill, with an Old Sin Nature, (OSN)
- under authority of sinful parents,
- influenced by sinful peers & absorbing the values of the world as our initial belief system.

Hard to imagine being in a more desperate, helpless or hopeless condition or situation.

### **Summary of our Predicament**

**Gen 3 Devil's poisonous lies** – woman believed lies; they lost everything of value – passed down

**God's promise of redemption** – seed of woman will crush head of serpent – regain all

We lost our created (+R) [Perfect Righteousness] - born disconnected from God/truth – unable to pay the price of redemption

Our flesh corrupted; impossible for anyone to obey the Law & qualify for the work of cross

- All human souls were (-R) [Unrighteous], worthy only to be condemned, unable to escape that prison
- All human bodies corrupted, passing Old Sin Nature (OSN) to every generation, incapable of sinless

**1 Thess 4:13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve, as do the rest who have no hope.**

- To live & die without Christ is to live & die without hope – no hope, hopeless

**1. From promise of Gen 3:15 until His birth, Old Testament prophets who knew the situation were metaphorically holding their breath waiting on His appearance; seeking hungrily to know**

**1 Pet 1:10** As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful search and inquiry, <sup>11</sup> seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow.

**God's plan began in eternity past and first phase was completed by Jesus Christ.**

**2 Tim 1:9-10** who has saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, <sup>10</sup> but now has been manifested by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,

**2. His birth announced with great excitement/drama marking God keeping His promise, fulfilling the hope/expectation of all Old Testament bel's – promises became flesh among us.**

Angelic choir, shepherds visiting, Anna & Simeon at the Temple, Wise men brought gifts

- Primary promise of human history, withheld for thousands of years had finally arrived
- Forces of evil pulled out all the stops trying to kill Him as a baby – escaped to Egypt
- All heartache evil perpetrates, God turns into divine good, benefitting believing ones
- His arrival had been anticipated for thousands of yrs, fulfillment was glorious – we anticipate His 2<sup>nd</sup> arrival when His glory will be fully expressed to all.

**3. As science progresses, continues to verify & validate all biblical concepts.**

MRI imaging reveals that the previously believed “blank slate” is anything but blank – pre-wired neural pathways creating pre-disposition toward inherited behaviors. – Old Sin Nature (OSN) predispositions

- a. Fallen man – born with pre-designed neural pathways based on inherited tendencies.
- b. We begin with our brain pre-wired to follow in our ancestors' paths of sinfulness.
- c. Born with a nature to serve self, make self the center, reject +R, sin by default

**4. Christ was born in a state of absolute perfection both physically and spiritually.**

- a. Jesus' brain was pre-wired for obedience & +R living – nature to serve God
- b. God the Holy Spirit indwelt Him at birth, connected to God, the Father at all times, believing truth
- c. At every turn of His normal human development, he rejected world's lies
- d. Tested & tempted in the same manner by all the challenges of life, yet w/out sin
- e. Jesus' brain was pre-wired to choose +R & truth in contrast to fallen man

**5. He had to be impeccable to qualify as the +R sacrifice for the sins of the world.**

**1 Peter 1:19** but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.

- Blemish – birth defects – he could have none of the corruption of Adam's sin
- Spot – growth defects – believing & operating on worldly ideas producing sin

**Blood of Christ** – not literal blood – symbolic of animal sacrifices performed in the Old Testament  
Mediator - Our confidence is in His worthiness to be the sacrifice for sin to represent us.

**Rom 1:4** – declared Son of God by His resurrection – proved that His sacrifice was accepted

**6. The Lords birth, incarnation & ultimate work has made certain the promise of redemption that we are now offered as the object of our hope/expectation/confidence.**

- Before his 1<sup>st</sup> coming, Old Testament believers trusted the prophecy of His person & work.
- His birth, life, death, burial & resurrection has fulfilled the expectations of Old Testament believers
- We now look back to His incarnation & make the object of our confidence & expectation the promises of what the temporal & eternal states can be for all who surrender to Him.