



- In the beginning, God the Father already existed; He was, He is, and He always will be.
  - Ex. 3:14-15 "And God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM.' And He said, 'Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, I AM has sent me to you.' 15 Moreover God said to Moses, 'Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations."

- In the beginning, Christ already existed, as He was with God and is God.
  - John 1:1-3 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made."

- John 8:56-58 "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad. Then the Jews said to Him, You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham? Jesus said to them, Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."
- Rev. 1:17-18 "...He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death."



- In the beginning, the Holy Spirit already existed.
  - Gen. 1:2 "The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters."

- Nothing existed in this realm: space, matter, energy, time, plant and animal life, humans.
- In fact, this realm did not exist until God called it into existence.
  - Heb. 11:3 "By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible."

- When it was called into existence, it was vast and empty, dark with the complete absence of all light, and shapelessly, fluidly chaotic.
- When it was called into existence, it was not the Divine realm, nor could it ever be. Heaven is perfect, orderly, incorruptible, not made of matter, nor sustained by energy, cannot age, decay or change.

- This realm is subject to two great laws of thermodynamics that forever separate it and its inhabitants from the Divine realm:
  - 1) Matter and energy cannot be created or destroyed by man, and...
  - 2) All things trend toward disorder.
  - 1Cor. 15:50 "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption."

Eph. 1:3-11 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, 5 having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved. 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace 8 which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, 9 having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, 10 that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth--in Him. 11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will."

- He chose Jesus as the means of blessing us before the first day.
- He purposed by His love and will to make us holy, suitable residents of heaven before the first day.
- He purposed to make us to be His children, not His angels, before the first day.
- He purposed to combine the best of earth with heaven before day one.
- He purposed to reveal His plan to humankind before the first day.

- 2Thes. 2:13 "But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth."
- 2Tim. 1:9 "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 given to us in Christ Jesus before time began."
- John 1:12 "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name."
- He developed the plan whereby we could be saved before the first day.



- 1Peter 1:20 "He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you."
- He instructed Jesus to be our Savior before the first day.

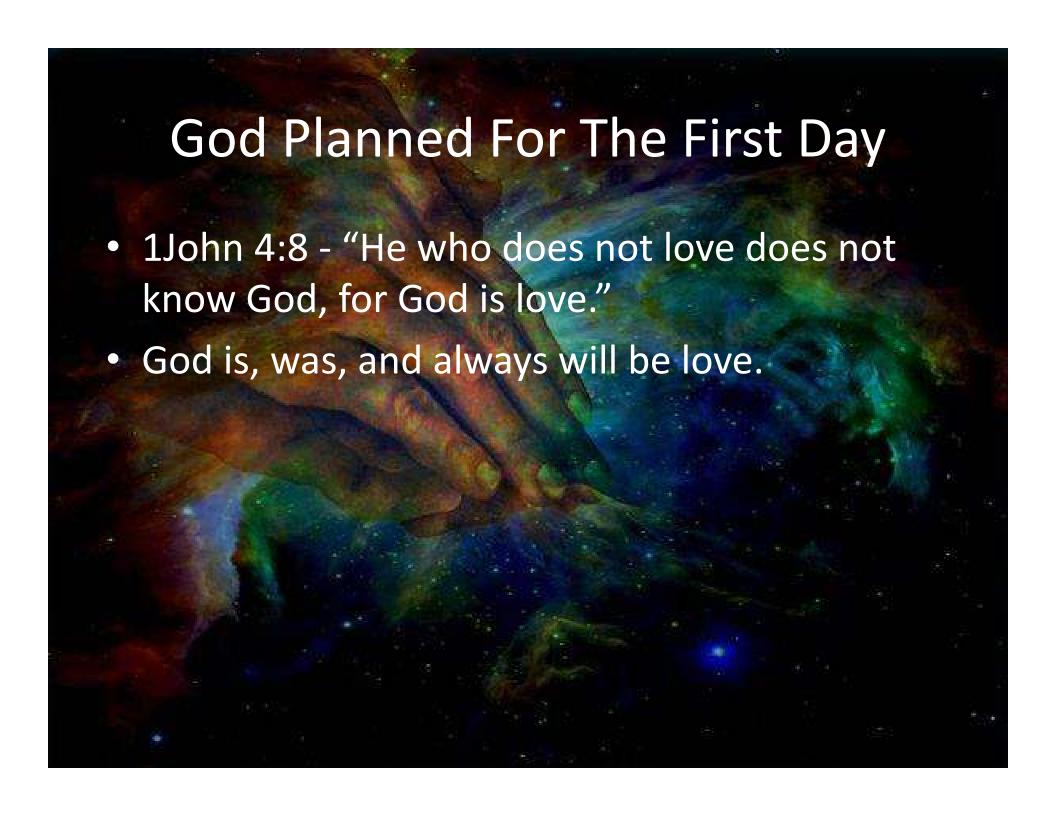
- Eph. 3:14-15 "For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named."
- Col. 1:19-20 "For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, 20 and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross."
- He purposed to make us part of His heavenly family before the first day.

- Rom. 8:29 "For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren."
- Heb. 2:10 "For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings."
- He purposed to make us like God the Son before the first day; God wanted to fill heaven with His children.

- 1John 3:1-2 "Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. 2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."
- 1John 4:19 "We love Him because He first loved us."
- God did not fall in love with us; He did not grow to love us; He loved us <u>before</u> the first day.

- Eph. 2:4-7 "But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus."
- If He loved us with an eternal love before we were made, He will surely love us when we fall.

- Rom. 5:8 "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
- John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."
- He loved and loves us in spite of ourselves.



# And Then His Work Began

 Gen. 1:1-5 - "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. 3 Then God said, 'Let there be light; and there was light.' 4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day."

#### And Then His Work Began

- And He continues to work on our behalf from before the first day through this day unto the last day.
  - John 5:17 "But Jesus answered them, 'My Father has been working until now, and I have been working."
  - 2Tim. 1:12 "For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day."
  - 1Thes. 5:23 "Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."