

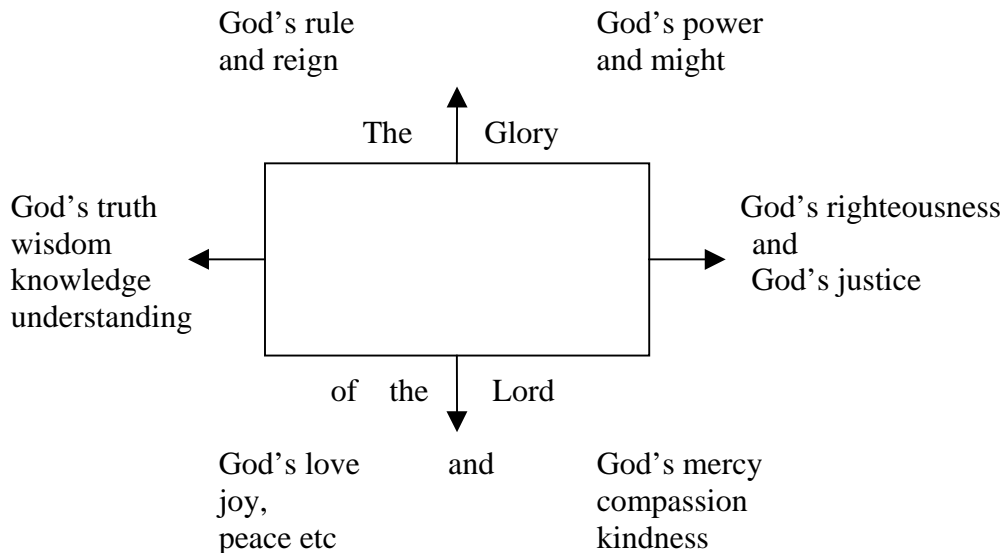
WHAT IS GOD'S ULTIMATE PURPOSE?

(Moerewa CF – 25/10/98 – EKB)

1. Have you ever considered **what is God's overall plan and purpose**, and where everything is headed? Why church, praise and worship, the Bible, evangelism, preaching and so on? What is it all for?
2. Paul writes about **God's "eternal purpose,"** in *Eph 3:8-11*, which he says has been accomplished in Christ.
3. At very specific and important times, God has stepped in and clearly stated what is going to be His final conclusion for all of creation.
4. For example, in *Numbers chapters 13&14*, when Israel as a nation refused to go in and possess the promised land of Canaan, because of the evil report, *Num 13:32, 14:37* of the ten spies, God dramatically speaks out His final ultimate purpose for creation, in *Num 14:21*.

**“BUT AS TRULY AS I LIVE, ALL THE EARTH SHALL BE FILLED WITH
THE GLORY OF THE LORD.”**

5. **This is God's ultimate purpose.**
6. Further, when man's glory and rulership over creation was at its highest peak, *Dan 2:37,38*, God revealed to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon that all his glory would pass away, as well as those of his successors, and that God would fill the earth with His glory and kingdom that would never pass away, *Dan 2:31-44*, especially *Dan 2:35,44*.
7. Also the Holy Spirit revealed the same to David as he worshipped God. *Ps 22:27,28, Ps 66:4, Ps 72:19, Ps 86:9*.
8. In the New Testament Jesus said, “Pray; Our Father which art in heaven; hallowed be Thy Name; **Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.**” In other words He was telling us to pray for God's glory and kingdom to come and fill the earth. This is God's final, grand purpose.
9. Paul reminds us that Jesus, the One who descended, *Eph 4:9,10*, is also the One who ascended far above all heavens, **that he might fill all things.**
10. **John saw it in vision. “The Kingdoms of this world have become the Kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever.”** *Rev 11:15*.
11. Praise our God for His plan for creation that will surely be fulfilled.
12. What is the **GLORY OF THE LORD** that is to fill all the earth? We read of this in *Jn 1:14, 2Cor 4:6*, and God showed it to Moses in *Ex 33:18-34:8*. It is the revelation of the fulness of the Lord Jesus Christ in all creation.



And this glory will flow through His people, who have in this life, faithfully served His will. *Mat 25:21, Lk 19:17.*

13. Now how is God going to do this and bring it to pass?
- a. **Firstly God will establish it through you and me** as we faithfully follow, serve, believe and obey Him, in the power and anointing of His Spirit, *Col 1:27, Gal 2:20, Eph 3:20.*
 - b. **As we seek first His Kingdom** in all we do, *Mat 6:33*, in our lives, marriage, family, church, town, province, country, etc.
 - c. **By prayer**, *Lk 11:2, 1Jn 5:14,15, 2Chr 20:6-12, Ac 12:1-24, Ac4:29-31.* In *Acts 12* Peter was locked up, chained to the guards, and the religious leaders planned for his death. But the believers prayed, *Ac 12:5*, constantly, powerfully in faith. This released the angel of the Lord to deliver Peter, *Ac 12:7*, and remove Herod, *Ac 12:23.*
 - d. **By praise and worship**. *Ps 22:3, 2Chr 20:22, Mat 21:16, Ps 8:2, Ps 149:6-9.* Praise and worship in the Spirit establishes God's Throne and rule in our midst, destroys the enemy's power, sets the captive free, and sends us forth in power and victory, *Ac 16:25,26.*
 - e. **By preaching the Word**. *Ac 2:14-39, Ac 19:8-10,19,20, Ac 8:5-8, Ac 4:23.* For two years Paul preached the Word every day in Ephesus, *Ac 19:10*, and "all who dwelt in Asia heard the Word of the Lord Jesus" and "the Word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed," *Ac 19:20.* This resulted in great fear and respect towards Jesus, *Ac 19:7*, and the believers getting rid of all occult materials, *Ac 19:19.*
 - f. **By personal testimony and witness**. *Ac 8:4,26-39, Ac 4:20, Ac 11:19-24, Ac 1:8, Mat 28:18-20, 1Thes 1:5-9.* In the New Testament record, by far the greatest impact of the Gospel on the world was through personal testimony and witness. Mass evangelism was very important, but the daily witness by every believer to their friends, neighbours, family and contacts was the most effective way the Gospel of the Kingdom of God spread. If there is one main way the present church has to change, it would be in every believer becoming active and bold in witnessing, *Phil 1:12,13,14-18, 1Thes 2:2.*
 - g. **By using your gifts to build up the local church**. *1Pet 4:10, Rom 12:5-8, Heb 10:25, Eph 4:11.* As members of the church, Christ's Body, *1Cor 12:18,27*, we have all been given various gifts with which we are to encourage and build one another up. The church is the vehicle or means through which God builds and establishes His Kingdom in this earth, *Mat 16:18,19, Eph 1:23.*