
There Are No Mistakes In God's World



We Are All Part of His Perfect Plan

There are no mistakes in God's world. We are exactly who He meant us to be. We are all His "work in progress." Some good news: Those that have been called, and have responded with a yes, have been given the opportunity of a lifetime, a new life in Christ, and should take advantage of this (His) undeserved gift. We have been set free and given eternal life! An unimaginable price was paid for this gift that began the moment we received Jesus as our Lord and Savior. In return, we have an opportunity to show our appreciation by making step three our life long commitment (practiced daily) to ourselves and to God. In doing so, a process begins that is known as recovery. Other words for this process are; sanctification, transformation, and deliverance. From day one, from the moment we receive Him as Lord and Savior, He comes to live His life in us and through us as we build a personal relationship with Him that will last for eternity.

Chosen for a Purpose

1 Peter 1:1

From Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ.

To God's chosen people who are away from their homes and are scattered all around the countries of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia. ²God planned long ago to choose you by making you his holy people, which is the Spirit's work. God wanted you to obey Him and to be made clean by the blood of the death of Jesus Christ. Grace and peace be yours more and more.

If you have accepted the call to be God's child, the above passage is talking to you, one of His chosen ones! But what we do with His gift is entirely up to us. Biblical fact tells us that nobody comes into God's house without having been invited. God makes it clear that it is His plan, and His will, that we find Him, and find freedom and peace in Him. Each one of us were created for a specific purpose. He made each of us exactly the way He wanted us. He brought together the exact DNA combination (mother and father) to produce you, exactly the way He wanted you, for the purpose He predestined for you. There are no mistakes when it comes to God. You are exactly how He made you. We have many imperfections, and God uses those imperfections to mold us and shape us to fit His purpose for us.

Step three helps get us on track for the journey He has planned for us. It takes specific types of individuals to accomplish His specific tasks. In the corporate world, certain men, with certain qualities, are specifically trained to fulfill specific positions.



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God is the author of it all. If we could clearly understand DNA, we might have an idea of just how different we are from each other. None of us are the same, and quite the contrary, most are very different from each other. God knew long ago, the tasks He would need accomplished today, and created His exact (perfect) match for each one of them. He has the perfect someone for every piece of His work. In the process of growing up, we have all been in His school, learning how to fulfill His purpose in our life. Every trial and tribulation we have ever experienced happened for a reason. As we learn each lesson, we are able to move on to the next one, as He continues to perfect us, making us more and more, "one day at a time," like Jesus. When we fail to learn, we keep re-visiting the same situation until we eventually get it. That is, if we don't end up dying first. A very simple physical example of this is the "revolving door" effect of the jail and prison system. It is clear that the one who fails to learn the lesson, is the one that ends up going back for the same reasons, and will continue to do so until he finally learns. Very few parole violators can honestly say that they were doing everything they were supposed to, but got violated anyway. We always have a part in our failures, some conscious, and some unconscious. Most people in "denial" end up playing the victim role, blaming everybody and everything for the problems their own rebellious behavior has brought upon themselves.

Our only hope is in Jesus. Without Him, there is little-to-no hope for the addict or alcoholic in finding anything that resembles true inner peace and joy. Jesus is the Prince of Peace, and with Him, we find a peace that is beyond all understanding. We find a new life that has its substance in Christ. It is His peace, and His joy that fills and fulfills us, and nothing in this world can take it away. We are told to "be not filled with wine, but filled with His Spirit." This is the best and cleanest high you will ever experience, and He delivers it anywhere 24/7. We can legally and safely consume the real deal, all day, everyday. No bathtub manufactured feelings. When we have Jesus, we have source, the Direct Connection, the giver of all good things living right inside us.

We were once in bondage to the counterfeits of this world, cheated out of the true gifts of life. Gifts such as salvation, and (blessings) such as love, peace, and joy can now be ours. Even as Christians, we can still be cheated out of our blessings. The truth is, either through ignorance or negligence, we are the ones that are guilty of allowing Satan to cheat us out of God's blessings. Satan has no power over us unless we give it to him. With Jesus, our protector living within, Satan is nothing but a barking, toothless dog. He cannot touch you unless you, yourself, invite him back into your life.

God's Word says we don't have because we don't ask, or because we ask for the wrong reasons. If we make His kingdom our primary concern in life, we will have everything we need, and will be blessed beyond our wildest imagination. This conscious choice requires faith, "put to action." Turning your will and life over to His care is a choice, and only a choice, until "put into action." It is sometimes a moment by moment task. In every situation, we have choices to make. We turn our will over to His will, and in return, He turns His will into our will.



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We find a Living Hope in steps 1, 2, and 3.

Jesus Christ is our Living Hope.

1 Peter 1:1

³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. In God's great mercy he has caused us to be born again into a living hope, because Jesus Christ rose from the dead. ⁴Now we hope for the blessings God has for his children. These blessings, which cannot be destroyed or be spoiled or lose their beauty, are kept in heaven for you. ⁵God's power protects you through your faith until salvation is shown to you at the end of time. ⁶This makes you very happy, even though now for a short time different kinds of troubles may make you sad. ⁷These troubles come to prove that your faith is pure. This purity of faith is worth more than gold, which can be proved to be pure by fire but will ruin. But the purity of your faith will bring you praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is shown to you. ⁸You have not seen Christ, but still you love him. You cannot see him now, but you believe in him. So you are filled with a joy that cannot be explained, a joy full of glory. ⁹And you are receiving the goal of your faith—the salvation of your souls.

¹⁰The prophets searched carefully and tried to learn about this salvation. They prophesied about the grace that was coming to you. ¹¹The Spirit of Christ was in the prophets, telling in advance about the sufferings of Christ and about the glory that would follow those sufferings. The prophets tried to learn about what the Spirit was showing them, when those things would happen, and what the world would be like at that time. ¹²It was shown them that their service was not for themselves but for you, when they told about the truths you have now heard. Those who preached the Good News to you told you those things with the help of the Holy Spirit who was sent from heaven—things into which angels desire to look.

We must learn to fulfill a call to holy living, a call only possible in the power of our Lord Jesus. Remember the word application because it is a mandatory part of the process. It is the most vital key to success in program. Good scripture and good suggestions from others all mean nothing unless we become willing (or should I say become desperate enough) to apply them into our daily life. We must be willing to follow the suggestions of those that have already found freedom, one day at a time.

The 12 steps, when done properly, with Jesus as Lord, have ability to clean us up and prepare us to be useful vessels for God. God works through His "willing" children (His vessels) to reach those still lost, those still suffering in bondage to their sins (addictions). We see this happening within the rooms of recovery. God sometimes chooses to remain anonymous, touching many in anonymous ways, through anonymous people in the anonymous programs. In His time, He reveals Himself to those He chooses. The individual desiring to recover shows up with a willingness and begins to follow the program's suggestions in faith. Somewhere along the journey, his eyes and ears are opened (a spiritual awakening) to God's truth. This happens in God's perfect timing, and no sooner.



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Be Holy

1 Peter 1:1

¹³So prepare your minds for service (meaning; we take action on our part) and have self-control. All your hope should be for the gift of grace that will be yours when Jesus Christ is shown to you. ¹⁴Now that you are obedient children of God do not live as you did in the past. You did not understand, so you did the evil things you wanted. ¹⁵But be holy in all you do, just as God, the One who called you, is holy. ¹⁶It is written in the Scriptures: "You must be holy, because I am holy."

¹⁷You pray to God and call him Father, and he judges each person's work equally. So while you are here on earth, you should live with respect for God. ¹⁸You know that in the past you were living in a worthless way, a way passed down from the people who lived before you. But you were saved from that useless life. You were bought, not with something that ruins like gold or silver, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, who was like a pure and perfect lamb. ²⁰Christ was chosen before the world was made, but he was shown to the world in these last times for your sake. ²¹Through Christ you believe in God, who raised Christ from the dead and gave him glory. So your faith and your hope are in God.

²²Now that you have made your souls pure by obeying the truth, you can have true love for your Christian brothers and sisters. So love each other deeply with all your heart. ²³You have been born again, and this new life did not come from something that dies, but from something that cannot die. You were born again through God's living message that continues forever. ²⁴The Scripture says,

"All people are like the grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field. The grass dies and the flowers fall, ²⁵but the word of the Lord will live forever."
Isaiah 40:6-8

And this is the word that was preached to you.

1 Peter 2

¹So then, rid yourselves of all evil, all lying, hypocrisy, jealousy, and evil speech. ²As newborn babies want milk, you should want the pure and simple teaching. By it you can grow up and be saved, ³because you have already examined and seen how good the Lord is.

⁴Come to the Lord Jesus, the "stone" that lives. The people of the world did not want this stone, but he was the stone God chose, and he was precious. ⁵You also are like living stones, so let yourselves be used to build a spiritual temple—to be holy priests who offer spiritual sacrifices to God. He will accept those sacrifices through Jesus Christ. ⁶The Scripture says:

"I will put a stone in the ground in Jerusalem. Everything will be built on this important and precious rock. Anyone who trusts in him will never be disappointed."

Isaiah 28:16

⁷This stone is worth much to you who believe. But to the people who do not believe, "the stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone."



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Psalm 118:22

⁸Also, he is "a stone that causes people to stumble, a rock that makes them fall."

Isaiah 8:14

They stumble because they do not obey what God says, which is what God planned to happen to them.

⁹But you are a chosen people, royal priests, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession. You were chosen to tell about the wonderful acts of God, who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰At one time you were not a people, but now you are God's people. In the past you had never received mercy, but now you have received God's mercy.

Live for God

¹¹Dear friends, you are like foreigners and strangers in this world. I beg you to avoid the evil things your bodies want to do that fight against your soul. ¹²People who do not believe are living all around you and might say that you are doing wrong. Live such good lives that they will see the good things you do and will give glory to God on the day when Christ comes again.

Yield to Every Human Authority

¹³For the Lord's sake, yield to the people who have authority in this world: the king, who is the highest authority, ¹⁴and the leaders who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. ¹⁵It is God's desire that by doing good you should stop foolish people from saying stupid things about you. ¹⁶Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as an excuse to do evil. Live as servants of God. ¹⁷Show respect for all people: Love the brothers and sisters of God's family, respect God, honor the king.

Follow Christ's Example

¹⁸Slaves, yield to the authority of your masters with all respect, not only those who are good and kind, but also those who are dishonest. ¹⁹A person might have to suffer even when it is unfair, but if he thinks of God and stands the pain, God is pleased. ²⁰If you are beaten for doing wrong, there is no reason to praise you for being patient in your punishment. But if you suffer for doing good, and you are patient, then God is pleased. ²¹This is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and gave you an example to follow. So you should do as he did.

22 "He had never sinned, and he had never lied."

Isaiah 53:9

²³People insulted Christ, but he did not insult them in return. Christ suffered, but he did not threaten. He let God, the One who judges rightly, take care of him. ²⁴Christ carried our sins in his body on the cross so we would stop living for sin and start living for what is right. And you are healed because of his wounds. ²⁵You were like sheep that wandered away, but now you have come back to the Shepherd and Protector of your souls.



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It has been a long and painful journey for each of us to get where we are today. Even if you have only one day clean, I'm sure it was a living hell getting here. We must try to live in today, but somehow stay focused on the whole picture, never totally forgetting where we came from. We must check our motives, making certain that choices and decisions have been thoroughly thought through before we act upon them. The ramifications of an addicts wrong choices can stay with him for years if he lives through them..

Why play with the possibility of turning back? Who are you consciously (and/or) unconsciously serving? Did you make a conscious choice this morning to serve God? If you weren't consciously serving God, you were serving His enemy in some way or another. There is no "middle of the road." Your actions today were, without question, molding your tomorrow. All of our daily choices, in some way or another, directly affect our future.

The music you listen to, the TV shows you watch, and the company you keep all affect you one way or the other, either in a positive or a negative way.

Remember: what you allow into your mind, will eventually become a part of who you are. Be aware, garbage in, garbage out.

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