

# Lesson 10



## THE PLAN BEFORE THERE WAS TIME

Our God is a well-organised God. Nothing He does is sporadic or unplanned. This is an important attribute to understand about the Lord. Peter reminds us that God the Father planned that His Son would be the means of redemption for the lost long before humans were even created. Before there was a problem (sin), He orchestrated a solution.

In the infinite, eternal wisdom of God, a remarkable plan was spawned which would *“gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth”*.<sup>1</sup>

### The Right Time

At a time determined by God alone, the fore-ordained plan of redemption became a reality. Paul writes, *“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.”*<sup>2</sup>

God is never late or tardy. For centuries the prophets eagerly awaited the Promised Messiah<sup>3</sup>, and at the right time Christ appeared and *died for the ungodly*.<sup>4</sup>

Sometimes we want God to work according to our timelines. However, His plan is flawless and His timing is perfect. All attempts to short-circuit or hasten God’s plan always results in pain on the part of the impatient. Abraham tried to assist God and it did not go well for Him. Solomon reminds us that God makes *“everything beautiful in His time”*.<sup>5</sup>

### The Beginning of the End

Peter explains that the manifestation of Christ was in these *“last times”*. When Jesus arrived on earth, He ushered in the first of two final chapters in redemptive history. His first coming was the announcement of salvation, and His second coming will be the consummation of that salvation. At His first advent, he taught the way of salvation in both doctrine and death, and His return will be the gathering of His people to eternal life.

### A Fixed Faith & Hope

Both the plan and the execution are entirely a work of God. The Father raised the Son from the dead and gave Him glory, and because of this, we have confidence and hope that God will do everything else that He has promised.

#### **LESSON OUTLINE:**

PRAY  
READ  
ENGAGE  
ANSWER  
CONNECT  
HOMEWORK

#### **READING:**

1 PETER 1

#### **STUDY TEXT:**

1 PETER 1:20-21

#### **THEME:**

THE CALL TO  
HOLINESS (PT.3)

#### **STUDY METHOD:**

Attributes of God  
Promises of God  
Principles for Life  
Lessons to Learn  
Examples to Follow

#### **FURTHER STUDY:**

GALATIANS 4:4-5  
PSALM 27

#### **MEMORY VERSE:**

1 PETER 1:18-19

#### **PRAYER & PRAISE:**

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<sup>1</sup> Ephesians 1:10

<sup>2</sup> Galatians 4:4-5

<sup>3</sup> 1 Peter 1:10

<sup>4</sup> Romans 5:6

<sup>5</sup> Ecclesiastes 3:11

## REFLECTIVE QUESTIONS

1. How does understanding that God operates with order, organisation, and a definite plan bring comfort and confidence? Discuss how you have observed this in your own Christian experience.

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2. Read 1 Samuel 13:5-14. How did Saul's impatience coupled with committing unlawful sacrifice cost him dearly?

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3. We are living in the last days. According to Titus 2:11-14 what should we be concerned with whilst we await the return of Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. How does knowing that God raised His Son from the dead and gave Him glory (1 Peter 1:21) provide us with hope in our daily walk with Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

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## LIST ANY QUESTIONS FOR THE PASTOR BELOW

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