

I. GOD THE FATHER HAS SET FORTH HIS PLAN FOR REDEMPTION.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son,

a. The Father as Creator God

- i. What God has created is good. (Ps.104:24-33)
- ii. Even those things that are bad have been ordained by God for His purpose. (Proverbs 16:1-9)

a) We have been given the freedom to do as we please, but this is sovereignly set forth by God-*The plans of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord. v. 1*

b) Although what we do seems good to us, it is our heart that is the real qualifier-*All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirit. v. 2*

c) Acting in accordance with God's word ensures the goodness of our choices-*Commit your way to the Lord, and your ways will you be established. v. 3*

d) Everything that is done is done according to God's purpose-the Lord has made. *Everything for its purpose, even the wicked for the day of trouble. v. 4*

e) However, we are all held accountable for our choice of rebellion-*Everyone who is arrogant in heart is an abomination to the Lord; be assured he will not go unpunished. v 5*

d ¹) God has provided the means by which our rebellion is remedied-*By steadfast love and faithfulness, equity is atoned for, and by the fear of the Lord one turns away from evil. v. 6*

c ¹) When we are committed to follow God's word, peace follows-*When a man's ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him. v.6*

b ¹) We need NOT gauge goodness by worldly measures-*Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues with injustice. v. 8*

a ¹) We are called to live our lives according to God's ordained word-*The heart of a man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps. v. 9*