

THE DESIRE OF THE ETERNAL FATHER

- **WHAT WAS THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF JESUS COMING TO THIS EARTH?**

We read in Luke –

Luke 19:10 NKJV

... The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.

(Also Matthew 18:11)

John also tells us –

1 John 3:8 NLT ...

... The Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil.

IT'S TRUE, but was seeking and saving us and destroying Satan's works the ultimate goal of Jesus coming to Earth?

- **SLIDE WHAT WAS THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF JESUS DYING UPON THE CROSS?**

BBC Religion says, 'Christians believe that the Death of Jesus was part of the divine plan to save humanity.'

Indeed it was ...

Matthew states –

Matthew 1:21

... You shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.

BUT WHAT WAS THE ULTIMATE GOAL?

You say, 'To take us to heaven.'

YES. BUT IS THAT THE FINAL GOAL?

Is it so we can sit back in the ultimate 2000-star resort!

Perfect temperature ... perfect breeze ... supernatural cocktails by the pool of eternal water ... Living in mansions of glory and endless delight ... Drifting on clouds and tasting exquisite food with enhanced tastebuds! YUM!

IS THAT IT?

- **WHAT IS THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF OUR SALVATION?**

Some insist that we are saved and chosen for a purpose!

WE ARE SAVED TO SERVE (Ephesians 2:10)

IT IS TRUE ...

BUT WHAT IS THE ETERNAL PURPOSE...?

To see other's saved? Yes. But what for?

To bring other's to heaven? Yes. But what for?

WHAT IS THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF OUR SALVATION?

It's interesting that when we talk about salvation, **IT'S ALL ABOUT US ... I'm Saved from Sin ... I'm Saved for a Purpose ... I'm Saved To Go To Heaven etc ...**

But friends, The Ultimate Goal of Salvation is NOT ABOUT US ...
IT'S ABOUT GOD HIMSELF ...

**THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF SALVATION IS
TO BRING US BACK TO GOD HIMSELF.**

2 Corinthians 5:19 NKJV **SLIDE**

... God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself ...

BUT WE NEED TO GO ONE STEP FURTHER & ASK ...

WHY DID GOD WANT US FOR HIMSELF?

GOD THE FATHER WANTED US TO BE SAVED & RECONCILED TO HIMSELF SO WE WOULD BE HIS ETERNAL CHILDREN AND THAT HE WOULD BE OUR ETERNAL FATHER!

GOD WANTED TO BE OUR FATHER

FATHERHOOD WAS ALWAYS IN GOD'S MIND ... EVEN BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF TIME!

FATHERHOOD IS THE DEEP DESIRE OF OUR FATHER-GOD

Ephesians 1:5 NLT **SLIDE**

*God decided in advance to **adopt us into His own family** by bringing us **to Himself** through Jesus Christ. This is what He wanted to do and **it gave him great pleasure***

'great pleasure' (eudokian) Noun **delight, desire, longing** or purpose.

Romans 10:1 NKJV (same word)

... My heart's **desire** ... is that they [Israel] may be saved.

NLT – 'The **longing** of my heart ...'

This gives us insight into The Father's own deep desire ... insight into what brings Him delight and why He set in motion the whole redemption plan –

Ephesians 1:5 CLV **SLIDE**

[Before the world began] God's great desire and heart's longing was to make us His own beloved children, along with His beloved Son Jesus ... and so He planned it!

Hebrews 2:10

*For it became Him [it was fitting for Him], for whom are all things and by whom are all things, **in bringing many sons unto glory**, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.*

Hebrews 2:10 CLV **SLIDE**

For God, for whom and by whom everything exists ... did what was necessary to bring us, His lost-sons back, to be with Him to share in all His Glorious splendour!

GOD WAS ALWAYS A FATHER

You see, God was always a Father ... A Father to Jesus His Son ... long before the world began.

**God didn't become a Father when He made man .
God made man because He was already a Father.**

ADAM WAS GOD'S SON ...

Luke 3:38 NLT **SLIDE**

*Kenan was the son of Enosh. Enosh was the son of Seth. Seth was the son of Adam. **Adam was the son of God.***

After The Fall of Man ... God, as 'The Father', became obscure to mankind.

**MANKIND HAS BECOME A WORLD OF SPIRITUAL ORPHANS
EVER SINCE THE FALL OF MAN IN EDEN.**

Adam not only brought sin and judgement to mankind ... **ADAM MADE ALL HIS DESCENDANTS SPIRITUAL ORPHANS – FATHERLESS.**

Since the fall of Adam, every person has had a deep longing for The Eternal Father ...

He's the father you've never known ... but who you've always desperately needed.

*This state of being spiritual orphans is **the reason behind so many of our mental and emotional problems.***

All humanity has suffered spiritual rejection which is the root cause of most of our fears, depressions, insecurities and lack of self-worth.

BUT THE FATHER'S HEART WAS ALSO BROKEN AT THE FALL OF ADAM.

He has also been longing for His children ...

And so He began the plan to bring us back!

GOD'S LONGING FOR HIS CHILDREN CAN BE HEARD IN 'HOSEA'

Hosea 11:1 Good News Bible

*The LORD says, "When Israel was a child, I loved him and called him out of Egypt **as my son.**"*

Hosea 11:3 JPS Tanakh 1917

... I taught Ephraim to walk, taking them by their arms ...

Hosea 11:4 NKJV

I drew them with gentle cords, with bands of love ... I stooped and fed them.

Hosea 11:7 NLT

... My people are determined to desert me ...

Hosea 11:8 NLT **SLIDE**

*"Oh, how can I give you up, Israel? How can I let you go? How can I destroy you like Admah or demolish you like Zeboiim? **My heart is torn within me, and my compassion overflows.**"*

When we really understand this about Father-God we can never feel abandoned or rejected again.

SLIDE YOU ARE SOOOO WANTED & SOOOO DESIRED ... MORE THAN YOU COULD EVER IMAGINE ...

YOU HAVE NOT BEEN ABANDONED BY GOD.

**YOU HAVE NOT BEEN REJECTED BY GOD.
THE FATHER REACHES OUT FOR YOU ...**

**IT WAS SIN THAT SEPARATED US FROM THE FATHER'S HEART.
IT WAS US WHO REJECTED HIM ...**

SLIDE SEE THE FATHER OF THE PRODIGAL (Luke 15:11-32)

- HE SAW THE PRODIGAL COMING BECAUSE HE HAD NEVER STOPPED LOOKING, LONGING & HOPING FOR HIS RETURN
- HE RAN TO HIM IN EAGERNESS ... ABANDONING DIGNITY
- HE HUGGED HIM EVEN THOUGH HE STUNK LIKE PIGS
- HE KISSED HIM ... SHOWERED HIM WITH HIS AFFECTION

**WE SEE WITH ISRAEL IN THE OLD TESTAMENT ... GOD'S
FATHERHOOD CAME OUT.**

**15 TIMES GOD REVEALED HIS DESIRE TO BE A FATHER TO
ISRAEL.**

GOD CONSIDERED ISRAEL TO BE HIS SON.

Exodus 4:22 BSB (First Mention)

... Tell Pharaoh ... 'Israel is My firstborn son.'

Deuteronomy 1:31 NIV

*(Moses speaking). There [in the wilderness] you saw how the Lord your God carried you, **as a father carries his son**, all the way you went until you reached this place.*

Deuteronomy 32:6 ESV

*... Is not [The Lord] your **father who created you**, who made you and established you?*

2 Samuel 7:14 BSB (Prophetically of The Church by Nathan The Prophet)

I will be his Father and he will be My son ...

**SO IT IS NO SURPRISE THAT WHEN JESUS FINALLY CAME TO
EARTH HE CAME PROCLAIMING GOD AS THE ETERNAL FATHER**

*'Father' is used by Jesus when speaking to or referring to God over
165 times in the four Gospels ... 100 times in John's gospel alone.*

JESUS HAD THE FATHER'S ULTIMATE PURPOSE IN HIS HEART.

**IN THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW EVERY TIME JESUS MENTIONS
GOD HE REFERS TO HIM AS 'FATHER' WITH THE EXCEPTION OF
ONE TIME.**

THE ONE TIME JESUS DIDN'T CALL THE FATHER, 'FATHER'

Matthew 27:46 NKJV **SLIDE**

About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

JESUS BECAME A 'SPIRITUAL ORPHAN' FOR US ON THE CROSS

Jesus had never known Rejection / Abandonment before ...

JESUS FELT & SUFFERED OUR REJECTION & ABANDONMENT

SO THAT YOU & I COULD BE ACCEPTED AND BECOME THE FATHER'S SONS.

JESUS TOOK OUR ORPHAN-STATE

WHEN JESUS CRIED OUT ON THE CROSS, 'IT IS FINISHED' –

Our pain of rejection and abandonment finished ... our orphan-state finished ...

Jesus suffered our rejection so we could be accepted by His Father.

Jesus was abandoned by God, so that you and I could be adopted.

Jesus endured agonizing separation from the Father which He had never known before ... so you and I could be brought near and know His Father.

THE FATHER'S ULTIMATE PURPOSE HAD BEEN
ACCOMPLISHED

WHICH HE REVEALED AFTER HIS RESURRECTION TO MARY

John 20:17 NLT **SLIDE**

*"Don't cling to me," Jesus said, "for I haven't yet ascended to the Father. But go find **my brothers** and tell them, 'I am ascending to **my Father and your Father**, to my God and your God.'"*

Romans 8:29 describes Jesus as the "firstborn among many brothers."

WE ARE NOW CONSIDERED JESUS' BROTHERS ... SONS ...
ALONG WITH OUR LORD JESUS

YOU CAN BEGIN TO KNOW HIM NOW

Matthew 11:27 NLT

My Father has entrusted everything to me. No one truly knows the Son except the Father, and no one truly knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

JESUS NOW, REVEALS GOD-THE-FATHER ...

You may not have had an earthly-father ... You may have had a good earthly father ... but either way we cannot allow our earthly experience of 'A Father' or 'No Father' to limit Jesus revelation of The Eternal Father.

HE IS PERFECT.

REVEALING OUR REAL FATHER

When praying to His Father as recorded in the Gospels, we hear Jesus using 3 different words to describe different aspects of The Father ... 2 adjectives and 1 noun.

These give us further insight into who The Father really is.

➤ HOLY FATHER – HIS CHARACTER THE BEAUTY OF HIS HOLINESS

John 17:11 NLT SLIDE

Holy Father, you have given me your name; now protect them by the power of your name so that they will be united just as we are

Holy: *hagie* Adjective - Set apart by (or for) God, holy, sacred. From hagos; sacred.

THIS FATHER IS PURE ... PERFECT & SPOTLESS ... BRILLIANTLY BEAUTIFUL ... THE ULTIMATE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS.

Isaiah heard the Cherubim say ... 'Holy, Holy, Holy is The Lord' = 3 TIMES HOLY (Isaiah 6:3)

Set apart ... HE CARRIES A FEARFUL PURITY

THIS IS WHO CALLS YOU ... DESIRES YOU ... TO NOW BE HIS HOLY CHILDREN – SAINTS = HOLY ONES

1 John 2:15 NKJV

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

YES THERE ARE SPIRITUAL-PRIVILEGED ... BUT THEY ARE NOT SNOBBY ... JUST SEPARATED IN WHO THEY ARE

➤ **RIGHTEOUS FATHER – HIS STANDARDS**
THE CULTURE OF HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS

John 17:25 NKJV **SLIDE**

***O righteous Father!** The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me.*

The blending of the idea of Righteousness with Fatherhood is the sublime revelation made by the Lord Jesus and he gathers the two ideas together into an indissoluble unity. (Pulpit Commentary)

THE FATHER'S RIGHTEOUSNESS IS HIS PROTOCOL – THE WAY ALL IS DONE

EVERY ACT HE DOES IS PROPER & CORRECT ...

EVERY THOUGHT ... EVERY FEELING ...

THIS IS THE CULTURE OF THE FATHER ... RIGHTEOUSNESS

YOU ARE BECOMING A PART OF AN ETERNAL DYNASTY ...

THE TRADITION OF HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS ...

WHAT A PRIVILEGE ... UNDESERVED ...

WE COME FROM A DIFFERENT CULTURE ... A LESSER / LOWER

... WE WERE BEGGARS ...

NOW SONS ... MADE WORTHY ...

Downton Abbey Tradition was so particular and precise that when setting the table layout they used a ruler to measure distances between the different cutlery pieces. So Precise.

➤ **ABBA FATHER – THE AFFECTION**
THE AFFECTION OF HIS HEART

Mark 14:36 NLT **SLIDE**

“Abba, Father,”** he cried out, **“everything is possible for you. Please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.”

Jesus knew this tender affection with His Father ... He appealed as a little child (*'Abba'* = Daddy) ... but also as a mature son (*'Father'*) ...

THIS WOULD HAVE BROKEN THE FATHER'S HEART ...

BUT HE LET IT GO SO THAT YOU COULD KNOW THIS TENDERNESS.

Romans 8:15 NET Bible **SLIDE**

... You received The Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry, 'Abba Father.'