

## Purpose Pt 2 All of God's purposes are in Christ

This is our second study on the word "purpose". In our previous study we established four points from the word of God – (1) We conceive a purpose in our heart and spirit, (2) Daniel purposed in his heart not to defile himself, (3) David purposed that his mouth would not transgress the Lord, and (4) those in the church purposed in their heart to cleave unto the Lord. In this teaching we establish (1) God's purposes are in Christ, (2) God purposed that all men be reconciled to Himself by Jesus Christ, and (3) A Christian's purpose is to be an ambassador for Christ.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

### 1. God's purposes are in Christ

"According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus" (Eph.3: 11).

### 2. God purposed man to be reconciled to Himself by Christ

"And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him" (Col 1:20) – c.f– "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ..." (2 Cor.5: 18).

"For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich" (2 Cor.8: 9).

### 3. A Christian's purpose is to be an ambassador for Christ.

"To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ" (2 Cor.6: 19 & 20).

Illustration to help apply our teaching to our life.

The sales person is responsible to the sales manager/managing director for bringing in sales, he is the primary face of the company to the customer. But in day to day activities each employee has a role to play and represents the company.

Question to think about.

How do we live day to day as an ambassador for Christ?

Our answer from the scriptures.

An ambassador is one who represents or promotes. God has "set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him... some...apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers," (1Cor.12: 18, 28). Christians whom God has not specifically set in the body of Christ to evangelise still have a purpose to be an ambassador for Christ. They show themselves as ambassadors day by day when they i) have an eye open to share Christ with neighbours and family. and i) live in the Spirit, walk in the Spirit and are led by the Spirit of God. They bear fruit of the Spirit of Christ, and are as Christ to those whom they meet, showing love, charity, mercy and compassion to the lost.

Just as any employee in a company can leave a bad taste in a customer's mouth, so can any member of the body of Christ turn people away from Christ when their words do not minister grace unto the hearers. IF you have been asked of the reason for the hope that is within you then you know that your day to day walk fulfils God's purpose for you as an ambassador for Christ! Let each one of us whether set by God to be an evangelist or not, fulfil God's purpose for us and be an ambassador for Christ, and remember – all God's purposes are in Christ!