

God's Eternal Plan of Redemption

**Bible Study
Chart # 401**

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All believers are saved by grace through faith in Jehovah God and His Messiah, by the work of the Holy Spirit.

Individual Believers (Saints from Adam to the call of Abraham)	Believing Israel (Saints living from Abraham to the church)	Church (Saints living from Pentecost to the Rapture)	Tribulation 7- years (Saints saved after the rapture and die before the revelation of Christ)	Kingdom 1,000 years (Saints saved after the rapture and did not die during the Tribulation or Kingdom)	New Heaven & Earth (forever) (All saints of all times are together in their eternal home)
Genesis 1-11	Genesis 12- Acts 1	Acts 2-Revelation 3	Revelation 6-19	Revelation 20	Revelation 21-22

A Redeemer is Coming. (Genesis – Malachi)	Redeemer is here. (Gospels & Acts 1)	Redeemer is coming again. (Acts 2- Revelation 19)	Redeemer lives with the saints. (Revelation 20-22)
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God's management of time- the Dispensations

Since the beginning of time, God has chosen to progressively reveal Himself and His redemptive plan to mankind. In His righteous mercy, He has chosen to judge and bless mankind based on how they respond to the revelation given to them. This chart reflects the flow of God's dispensations* in His redemptive plan. According to Ephesians 1:10, there will come a time in the end when *"in the dispensation of the fulness of times [God will] gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him."* * The word "dispensation" means "management of time."

The entire Bible consistently teaches that man is saved by grace through faith as a work of the Holy Spirit. No one has ever been saved outside the expression of faith in the perfect sacrifice of God's only Son and Redeemer – Jesus Christ. Blood sacrifices of animals cannot “*take away sins*” (Hebrews 10:4). The redeeming work of the Trinity is found throughout the Old Testament. The Holy Spirit did strive in the souls of men to convict them of their sin and need of a Savior (Genesis 6:3). The Son of God is portrayed throughout the Bible as a sacrificial Lamb (Revelation 13:8). Salvation comes exclusively from Jehovah God – the Father (Psalm 3:8; Jonah 2:9).

Individual Believers (Saints from Adam to the call of Abraham)

Although they did not have any written revelation, God spoke audibly and directly to many of these saints, revealing their need for redemption. They were convicted of their sin and believed in God by faith. This faith was evidenced in acts of obedience to God. Hebrews 11 highlights the faith of three of these believers: Abel, Enoch, and Noah.

Believing Israel (Saints from Abraham to the Church)

Beginning with the life of Abraham, God called a unique ethnic group of people into a unique relationship with Him. They were chosen by God to bring Him glory and to demonstrate to the world that He is the Lord God (Isaiah 43). Their blessings were not due to their works, but for the glory of God's name (Ezekiel 36:21-23). Not every Jewish person in the nation was saved and had a relationship with God. Within this nation of sinners, God had a remnant of godly believers (Isaiah 1:2-9). Each person had to respond by faith to God's call of salvation (Romans 4:3). Eventually, in the first century, God temporarily set aside His use of the Jewish nation and scattered them into the nations (Ezekiel 36:19). He has promised to regather them into their land at the end of this age (Ezekiel 36:24).

Church (Saints from Pentecost to the Rapture)

The church is a spiritual body of saved Jews and Gentiles called out of the world into a unique relationship with God (Ephesians 2:11-22). The church did not exist in the Old Testament. When Jesus referred to the church, He used the future tense (Matthew 16:18). The church began on the Jewish feast of Pentecost in 30 A.D. (Acts 2). The church did not displace or replace Israel in God's eternal plan (Romans 11:25-26). All church saints have been saved through faith (Ephesians 2:8). The church began suddenly on one day and will end suddenly on one day at the rapture in the “*twinkling of an eye*” (1 Corinthians 15:52).

Tribulation- 7 years (Saints saved after the Rapture and die before the Revelation of Christ)

The Tribulation Period will begin after the Rapture and with the introduction of the Antichrist's false peace covenant with Israel (Daniel 9:27). A great global remnant of people from all nations will be saved by grace through faith during this horrific time (Revelation 7:9-17). Most believers will be martyred for their faith in Christ (Revelation 20:4). At the mid-point of the Tribulation God will cause an angel to fly around the globe and preach the gospel to all the nations (Revelation 14:6-7). A small remnant of those saved during the Tribulation will physically survive and live for the next 1,000 years during Christ's earthly kingdom.

Kingdom- 1,000 years (Saints saved after the rapture and did not die during the Tribulation or Kingdom)

The physical earthly kingdom of God will begin shortly after the Tribulation Period and Christ's return to earth at His revelation (Revelation 20:1-4). The saints that occupy this kingdom will be all the living saints that have survived the Tribulation. The children of these living surviving saints must be saved by their personal faith in Jesus Christ. The resurrected saints of all the ages will reign with Christ over the living nations on earth.

New Heavens & New Earth- forever (All saints of all times are together in their eternal home)

No sinners or sin will be allowed to enter the new heaven and the new earth (Revelation 21:27). All the saints of all the ages will have a perfect body and mind. They will live with the Lord in a perfect place forever. There will be no marriage arrangements or birth of children during this eternal arrangement.