

Built By God

Hebrews 8.2

We are often tempted to see history and the events of the world as caused by man and his strivings... there are many who believe that man is able to alter the course of the planet and its climate, we struggle against our innate sense of our impotence, and rage against the God who has made us His own and who tells us again and again that He is at work fashioning the full display of His own glory. That the coming of Jesus was not a stopgap measure, but that it was the point of all creation for the entire course of all created history. God has been building the world for the display of Jesus since before He made light... The calling of scripture is for us to lean in and rest in the God who has made all things for the full display of His glory!!!

I. EVERYTHING GOD BUILDS IS PERFECT

A. Perfect planning

*“Then I was beside Him as a master craftsman; And I was daily His delight, Rejoicing always before Him,”
(Proverbs 8:30, NKJV)*

B. Perfect preparation

1. Mercy and Grace

2 Corinthians 5:1–5

2. Justice and Wrath

“God is a just judge, And God is angry with the wicked every day. If he does not turn back, He will sharpen His sword; He bends His bow and makes it ready. He also prepares for Himself instruments of death; He makes His arrows into fiery shafts.” (Psalm 7:11–13, NKJV)

“But the Lord shall endure forever; He has prepared His throne for judgment. He shall judge the world in righteousness, And He shall administer judgment for the peoples in uprightness.” (Psalm 9:7–8)

3. His own perfect will

“What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory,” (Romans 9:22–23, NKJV)

C. Perfect purpose

Isaiah 14:24–27

D. Perfect execution

“Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,’ Calling a bird of prey from the east, The man who executes My counsel, from a far country. Indeed I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it.” (Isaiah 46:9–11, NKJV)

II. HE PREPARED THE FOUNDATION FOR MESSIAH

“Therefore thus says the Lord God: “Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, A tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; Whoever believes will not act hastily.” (Isaiah 28:16, NKJV)

A. Prepared the structure

1. Sin and rejection
2. Sacrifice
3. Law
4. Testimony
5. Presence

“Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.”

(Exodus 40:34, NKJV)

6. Prophecy - the whole of the OT is the continuing announcement of what God is doing and preparing...

B. Prepared the Nation

1. Promised the line of David an eternal throne, then removed the human monarchy from power.

*“I have made a covenant with My chosen, I have sworn to My servant David: ‘Your seed I will establish forever, And build up your throne to all generations.’ ”
Selah” (Psalm 89:3–4, NKJV)*

“Therefore thus says the Lord: “Behold, against this family I am devising disaster, From which you cannot remove your necks; Nor shall you walk haughtily, For this is an evil time. In that day one shall take up a proverb against you, And lament with a bitter lamentation, saying: ‘We are utterly destroyed! He has changed the heritage of my people; How He has removed it from me! To a turncoat He has divided our fields.’ ”” (Micah 2:3–4, NKJV)

2. Seared their hearts against idolatry, against false gods and false worship.

3. The leaders were so sensitive to outer idolatry, that they could not see their inner failure

“The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the Lord’s doing; It is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.” (Psalm 118:22–24, NKJV)

4. The people were crushed under the weight of man's law, there was no hope, they were ripe for the deliverance God prepared
- C. Prepared the times
1. Rome's domination
 2. The power of Satan deeply entrenched in the king's madness and evil ways
 3. The lineage of David so scattered and obscured that no heir of David was even close to the throne...
 4. And yet, they have been preserved

III. HE PITCHED HIS TABERNACLE...

- A. Overshadowed the virgin

“And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest

will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.”

(Luke 1:35, NKJV)

1. Of the line of David herself
 2. Joseph of the lineage of David so that Jesus' human "father" would carry the genealogical right to the distinction of being Davids line and heir.
- B. Made Christ Jesus the full nature of man and the full nature of God without mixture or dilution.

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14, NKJV)

- C. He established His presence among His people perfectly, and made it so that we might be forever in His glory.

Ephesians 1:3–14

IV. HE BUILDS HIS CHURCH

- A. The building God is making

1 Corinthians 3:9–17

- B. The image of Christ

“Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.”

(Colossians 2:8–10, NKJV)

C. The family of God

“Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.”

(Ephesians 2:19–22, NKJV)

D. The bride of Christ

“For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself,

and let the wife see that she respects her husband.”

(Ephesians 5:30–33, NKJV)

E. The promised vindication of God's righteousness
“But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.”

(Romans 3:21–26, NKJV)

F. The eternal city made glorious in both her splendor and travails...

1Peter 2:4–10

V. HE DISPLAYS HIS PERFECTION

A. The full and final revelation of God for all eternity

“For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.” (1

Thessalonians 4:16–17)

“Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.””

(Revelation 21:1–4, NKJV)

B. The sheep He has chosen for His own pasture in His presence forever

Ps 100

C. The eternal demonstration of His love, majesty and Mercy

“And He said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”” (Revelation 21:6–8, NKJV)

D. The eternal demonstration of His wrath, righteousness and justice.