

Sermon Outline and Notes

NOBC

God's Actions Before Time Began

11/20/2011

Today, we shall turn our attention towards what God did in eternity past, before He created the world, to prepare for Christmas. As we consider these marvelous actions it will likely cause us to pause and adore our Lord even more than we perhaps have done before as we marvel at His love for us.

I. GOD THE FATHER WAS LOVING GOD THE SON

Praying to God the Father the night before His crucifixion, Jesus prayed: *“Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for **thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world**”* (John 17:24).

II. GOD PLANNED AND ACTIVATED HIS PLAN OF REDEMPTION

A. God Pre-Ordained the Way of Salvation

1. God the Son was fully God and fully eternal John 1:1
2. God the Son, the eternal **“Word,”** would become flesh John 1:14; Luke 1:26-37
 - a. God the Son willingly gave up the prerogatives of His deity so that He could enter the world in time as a man Philippians 2:6
 - b. God the Son entered the world as a man at the lowest possible level Philippians 2:7
3. God gave His **“only begotten Son”** to die for our sins
2 Timothy 1:9; 1 Peter 1:18-20
4. God determined that His Son would die by the wicked hands of those who hated Him and use their own hatred to defeat them
Acts 2:22-24
5. God determined to love and save even those who hated Him
Romans 3:23; 5:6-8

B. God Pre-Ordained How A Person Could Be Saved

1. No one could help save himself by his own efforts
2 Timothy 1:9; 1 Peter 1:18; Ephesians 2:8-9; Isaiah 64:6
2. All who would call upon Him in faith would be saved
Acts 2:21; Romans 10:9-13

III. BEFORE TIME BEGAN, GOD TOOK SOME VERY SPECIFIC ACTIONS REGARDING SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS

A. He Wrote Some Names In His Book of Life

Luke 10:20; Revelation 3:5; 21:27; 13:8; 17:8; 20:15

B. He Chose Some Specific People To Be His Children By Adoption

Ephesians 1:3-5; John 1:12; 3:16-18

C. He Chose To Govern The Life Experiences of Each Chosen Person

Romans 8:28-30

1. He chose to use those experiences to mold each one chosen
2. He called each one He chose
3. He justified each one He chose
4. He glorified each one He chose