

God Manifested in a Darkened World

Ed Anthony – destinyslink@bellsouth.net

Overview

- The Testimony of Creation
- The Testimony of God's Word
- The Testimony of the Gospel
- The Testimony of God's Presence
- The Testimony of Faithfulness

The Testimony of Creation

Overview

- Purpose of creation – God manifested
- Priority of creation – created first
- Presence of creation – it can be seen
- Power of creation – it is effective
- Perception of Creation – how is it viewed

Purpose of Creation

- God's glory is manifested
 - Psalm 8:1-4
 - Psalm 19:1-6
 - Romans 1:19-20
- Ephesians 1:4
- Ephesians 3:8-12
- Temporary
 - Isaiah 65:17; 66:22; 2 Peter 3:10-13; Re. 21:1

The Purpose of Creation

- Attributes of the creation
 - The testimony never fades
 - The testimony is visual
 - The testimony is ubiquitous
 - The testimony is available to all
 - The testimony has endless power

The Priority of Creation

- It was the first thing created from nothing
 - Nehemiah 9:6
- It is the first testimony from God
- Future testimony would proceed from this creation
- Man tries to explain how the testimony came to be – but misses the testimony as given

The Presence of Creation

- The unseen made seeable by his word
 - Hebrews 11:3
- Science cannot show us how this was done – it's a miracle!
 - Job 38:1-41:34
- Certain attributes of God made visible
- The creator knows how the universe works
 - Man is learning how it works

The Power of Creation

- It is effective in making God known
 - Job 12:7-10; Psalms 19:1-4
- It is a clear testimony
- Rational and logical conclusions can be reached concerning God

The Perception of Creation

- Brings responsibility to man
- Should bring worship to the Creator
 - The creation is not God
- Brings glory to God
 - Psalms 148:1-6; Revelation 4:11

Summary

- Purpose of creation – God manifested
- Priority of creation – created first
- Presence of creation – it can be seen
- Power of creation – it is effective
- Perception of Creation – how is it viewed

The Testimony of God's Word

Overview

- Purpose of the Word – God manifested
- Priority of the Word – it is preeminent
- Presence of the Word – it can be heard
- Power of the Word – it is effective
- Perception of the Word – how is it viewed

Purpose of the Word

- Manifestation of God – Access by faith
 - Romans 10:14-17
 - Word – Sending, preaching, hearing
 - Faith – hearing, believing, calling
- Manifestation of God – Living by faith
 - Galatians 3:2-11
 - Declared righteous – live by faith
 - Acts 15:7
- Manifestation of God – Jesus Christ
 - John 5:39
 - Luke 24:27

Priority of the Word

- Manifesting the Living Word
 - Colossians 1:15-19
 - Christ preeminent in all things
 - Luke 24:27
 - Things concerning himself (the Lord Jesus Christ)
 - John 5:39
 - They speak of me
- Teaching the Word
 - Acts 2:42
- Using the Word
 - Dt. 8:3; Matthew 4:4; Lk. 4:4; Acts 17:11

Priority of the Word

- "The true Christian was intended by Christ to prove all things by the Word of God, all churches, all ministers, all teaching, all preaching, all doctrines, all sermons, all writings, all opinions, all practices. These are his marching orders. Prove all by the Word of God; measure all by the measure of the Bible; compare all with the standard of the Bible; weigh all in the balances of the Bible; examine all by the light of the Bible; test all in the crucible of the Bible. That which cannot abide the fire of the Bible, reject, refuse, repudiate, and cast away. This is the flag which he nailed to the mast. May it never be lowered!"
– John Wycliffe

The Presence of the Word

- The unseen made seeable by his word
 - 2 Peter 1:21
- Science cannot show us how this was done – it's a miracle!
 - 2 Timothy 3:16
- Certain mysteries of God made visible
 - Matthew 13:11; 1 Co. 4:1; 1 Co. 2:7; Eph. 3:3
- Stands forever
 - Ps. 119:89; Is. 40:8; Mt. 24:35; Mk. 13:31; Lk. 21:33; 1 Pe. 1:25

Power of the Word

- The gospel according to power of God
 - 2 Timothy 1:8
- By the word of truth, by the power of God
 - 2 Corinthians 6:7
- Preach Christ crucified...the power of God
 - 1 Corinthians 1:18, 23-24
- Powerful and sharper...
 - Hebrews 4:12
- Upholding all things by the word of his power
 - Hebrews 1:3

Perception of the Word

- Works effectually
 - 1 Th. 2:13
- Wise unto salvation
 - 2 Timothy 3:15
- Lamp and a light
 - Ps. 119:105
- A mirror
 - James 1:22-23

Summary

- Purpose of the Word – God manifested
- Priority of the Word – it is preeminent
- Presence of the Word – it can be heard
- Power of the Word – it is effective
- Perception of the Word – how is it viewed

The Testimony of the Gospel

Overview

- Purpose of the Gospel – God manifested
- Priority of the Gospel – it is preeminent
- Presence of the Gospel – it can be heard
- Power of the Gospel – it is effective
- Perception of the Gospel – how is it viewed

Purpose of the Gospel

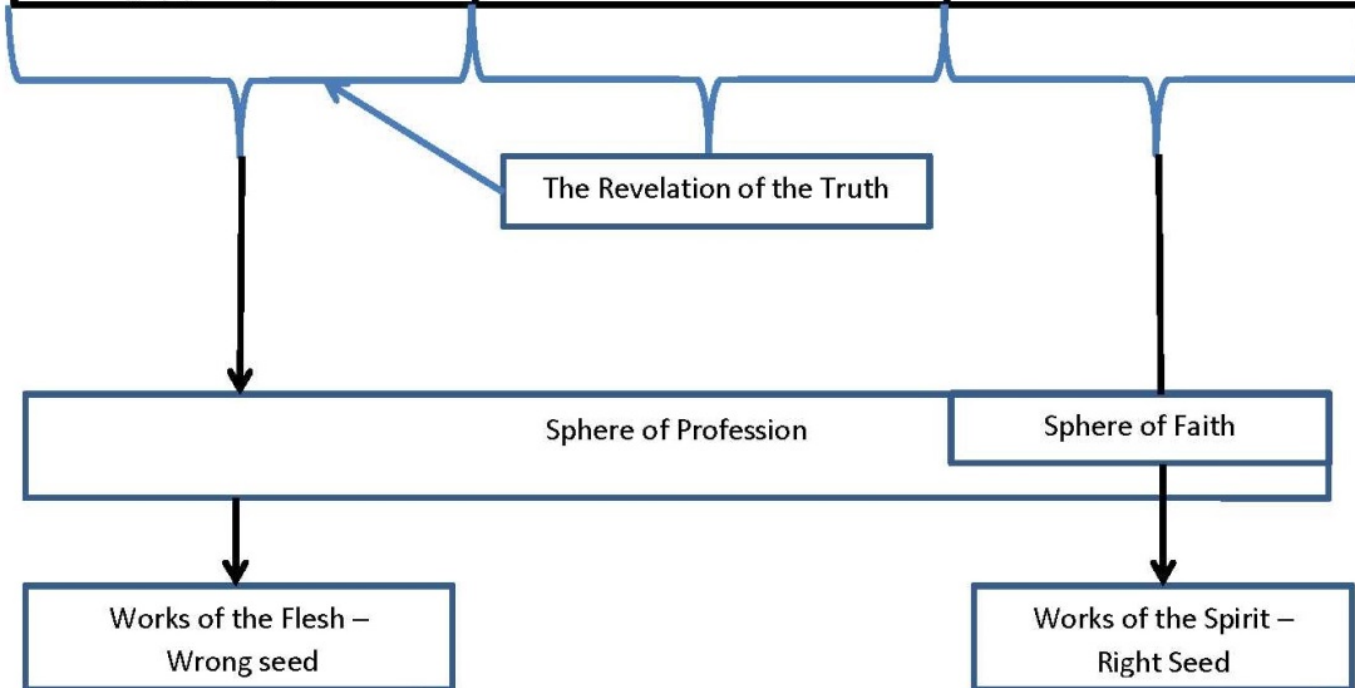
- Good news starts with Christ
 - Mark 1:1
- Begotten through the gospel
 - 1 Cor. 4:15
- By which we are saved
 - 1 Co. 15:1-4
- Life and immortality
 - 2 Timothy 1:10

The Priority of the Gospel

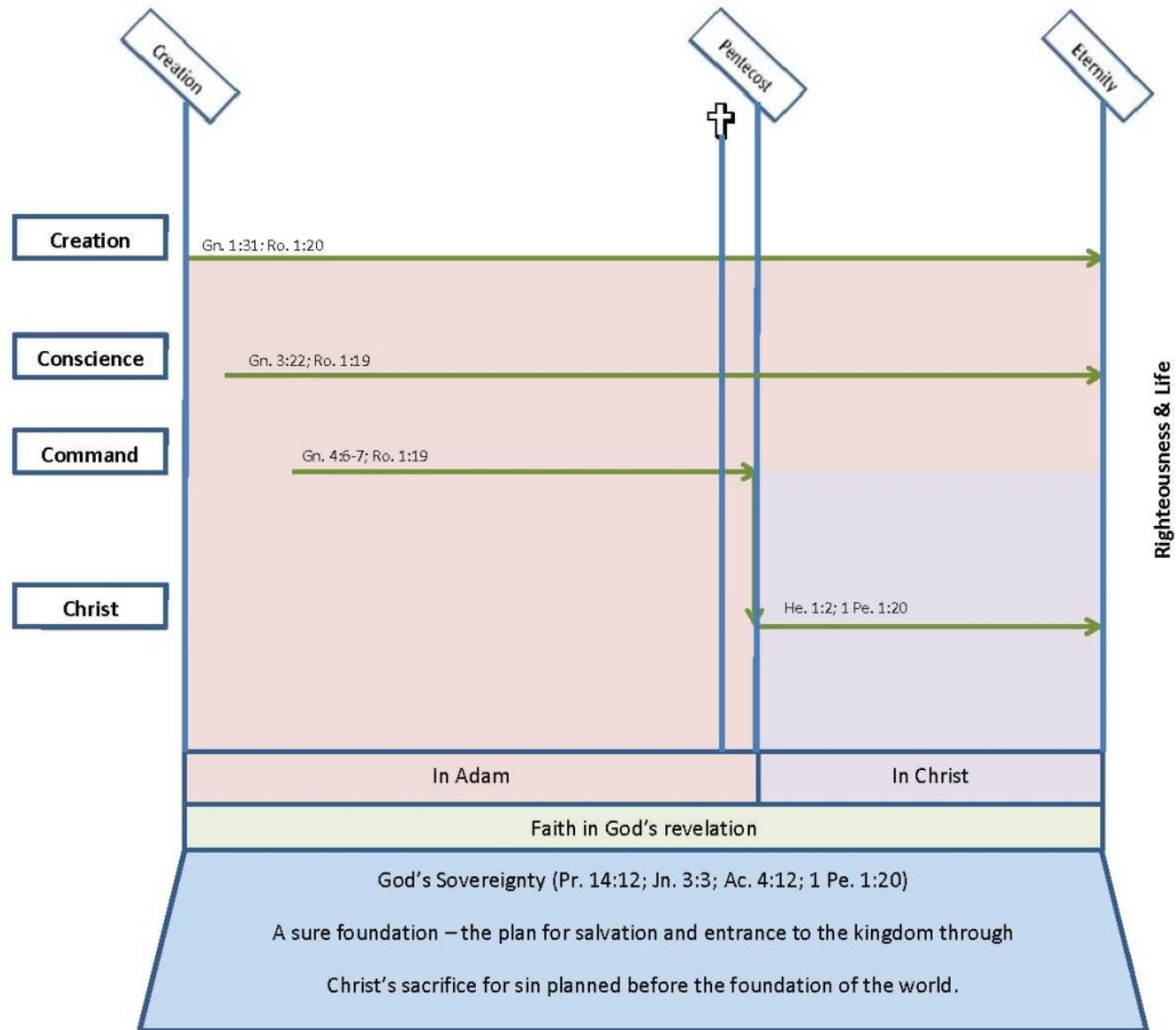
- Nothing so dear
 - Acts 20:24; Romans 9:3
- No other gospel
 - Galatians 1:6-9
- Gospel key to conduct
 - Phil. 1:27

From the Dominion of First Man to the Dominion of Second Man

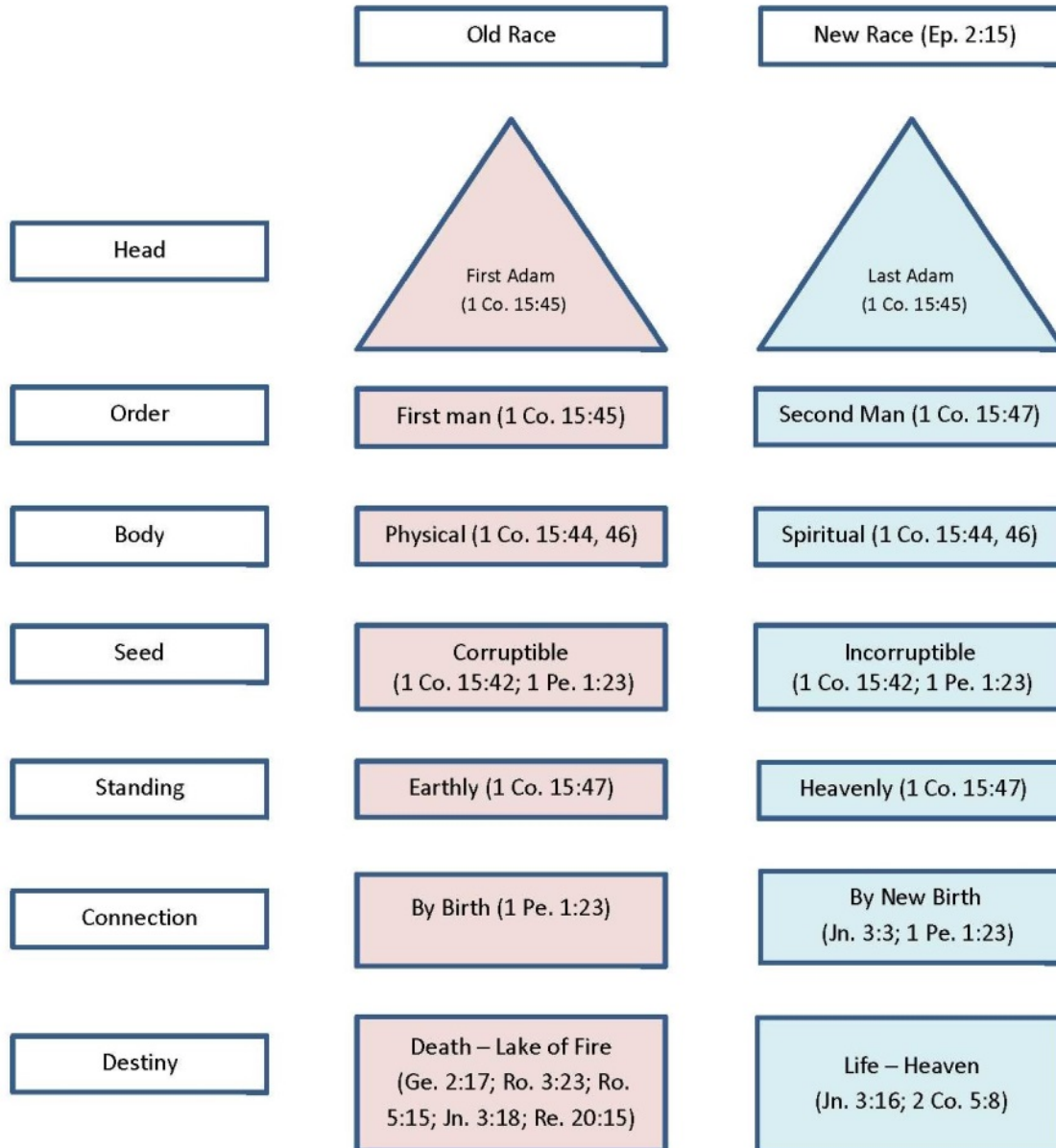
God chose to rule in or by...	God chose to reveal himself by...	God has chosen to relate by...
Adam (Ge. 1:26, 28)	Creation, Command	Faith
Individuals (Ge. 4:4, 5:22-24, 6:9)	Creation, Command, Conscience	Faith
A Family (Ge. 12:1, 21:12, 28:14)	Creation, Command, Conscience, Promise	Faith
A Nation (Israel/Jews) (Ex. 19:6)	Creation, Command, Conscience, Promise, Law	Faith
Among the Nations (the Church) (1 Pe. 2:9)	Creation, Command, Conscience, Promise, Law, Christ	Faith
All Nations (Is. 2:1-2)	Creation, Command, Conscience, Christ, Law	Faith
All Things (Ep. 1:10) in Christ	Christ	Faith



God's grace in revealing himself to man to be believed unto salvation



God's plan as seen in the two races of men (Ro. 5:8-21)



The Presence of the Gospel

- The unseen made seeable by his word
 - Ephesians 6:19
- Science cannot show us how this was done – it's a miracle!
 - Evidence of unseen must be believed – 2 Co. 4:4
- Certain mysteries of God made visible
 - Romans 16:25
- The creator knows how the gospel works
 - Man is learning how it works

Power of the Gospel

- The gospel...it is the power of God
 - Romans 1:16
- Preach Christ crucified...the power of God
 - 1 Corinthians 1:18, 23-24
- Being born again...
 - 1 Peter 1:23
- Birth – Death – Resurrection
 - 1 Co. 15:1-4

Perception of the Gospel

- The whole gospel
 - Exodus 6:6-8
- What do we believe
 - Exodus 14:31; Jude 5; Hebrews 4:2
- Own way versus God's way
 - Romans 10:3; Philippians 3:9
- Obtain glory
 - 2 Thess. 2:14

Summary

- Purpose of the Gospel – God manifested
- Priority of the Gospel – it is preeminent
- Presence of the Gospel – it can be heard
- Power of the Gospel – it is effective
- Perception of the Gospel – how is it viewed

The Testimony of God's Presence

Overview

- Purpose of the Presence – God manifested
- Priority of the Presence – no other God
- Presence of the Presence – he can be heard
- Power of the Presence – it is effective
- Perception of the Presence – how is it viewed

Purpose of the Presence

- Source of strength
 - 1 Co. 10:4
- Source of direction
 - Ex. 13:17-22
- His love
 - Dt. 7:6-9
- Reminder of their Lord
 - Ex. 29:46

The Priority of the Presence

- His presence leads
 - Ex. 33:14-17; Num.9:15-23
- His presence – he is magnified
 - 1 Co. 1:29
- Fullness of joy
 - Ps. 16:11
- No other Gods
 - Ex. 20:3

The Presence of the Presence

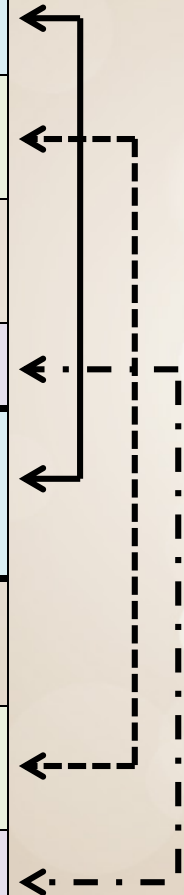
- Earthly Presence
 - Tabernacle
 - Exodus 25:8, 36:1, 40:34-35
 - Temple
 - 2 Chronicles 5:13-14
 - Son of Man
 - John 1:14; 14:9-10
 - The believers (Tabernacle)
 - 1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19; Ephesians 2:21-22

The Power of the Presence

- Worship God's way
 - Le. 10:1-3
- Holy and separate
 - Ex. 33:7-11
- Power is available
 - Lk. 5:17
- To walk free from sin and death
 - Ro. 8:1-11

The Perception of the Presence

Eden to the Tabernacle	God visits man individually through various means.	Genesis 3:8, 4:6, 6:13, 7:1, 12:1, 26:2, 28:13; Exodus 3:4, 33:9; etc.
Tabernacle to the Temple	God dwells in the midst of the people in a temporary structure – the tabernacle .	Exodus 25:8, 36:1, 40:34-35
Temple to the Captivity	God dwells in the midst of the people in a permanent structure – Solomon's temple .	2 Chronicles 5:13-14; Ezekiel 10-11
Captivity to Christ - Judgment	God visits man individually through various means – Israel awaiting Messiah .	Ezra, Nehemiah, Haggai, Daniel, etc.
Christ to the Church (Assembly)	God himself dwells personally in the midst of his people	John 1:14, 14:9-10
Church to the Rapture	God dwells among his people in a temporary structure the tabernacle of the believers indwelt by the Holy Spirit.	1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19; Ephesians 2:21-22
Rapture to Millennium - Judgment	God visits man individually through various means – Israel awaiting Messiah .	Revelation 7, 11:3-6
Millennium	God dwells among his people in a permanent structure in the Millennial temple .	Ezekiel 43:1-5
New Jerusalem	God himself dwells personally in the midst of the people.	Revelation 21:3, 10-11



Summary

- Purpose of the Presence – God manifested
- Priority of the Presence – no other God
- Presence of the Presence – he can be heard
- Power of the Presence – it is effective
- Perception of the Presence – how is it viewed

The Testimony of Faithfulness

Overview

- Purpose of Faithfulness – God manifested
- Priority of Faithfulness – no other God
- Presence of Faithfulness – he can be seen
- Power of Faithfulness – it is effective
- Perception of Faithfulness – how is it viewed

Purpose of Faithfulness

- Devotion to God
 - Ex. 20:3
- To keep connected
 - Dt. 7:9
- Reward and blessing
 - Mt. 25:21-23; Lk. 16:11

The Priority of Faithfulness

- Numbers 5:11-31
 - God is jealous for his bride and expects faithfulness.
- Numbers 25:1-13
 - Phinehas was jealous with God's jealousy.

The Presence of Faithfulness

- God is faithful
 - 1 Co. 1:9
- 2 Corinthians 11:2
 - For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

The Power of Faithfulness

- Faith leads to faithfulness
 - Galatians 3:9
- Faithfulness leads to testimony
 - Heb. 3:2-6

The Perception of Faithfulness

- Priorities
- Passions
- Provisions
- Profits
- 1 Corinthians 4:1-2
 - Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

Summary

- Purpose of Faithfulness – God manifested
- Priority of Faithfulness – no other God
- Presence of Faithfulness – he can be seen
- Power of Faithfulness – it is effective
- Perception of Faithfulness – how is it viewed