

he says, is no accident, no afterthought. It was the eternal purpose of God's love before the foundation of the world that the eternal Christ should save humanity, that evil should be swept out of the Universe forever. that the poor children should be gathered into the arms of the Father, that God should be all in all.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ, as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, having predestined us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his grace wherein he hath made us accepted in the Beloved, in whom we have redemption through his blood even the forgiveness of sins. . . . that in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather unto one all things in Christ, according to his purpose who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will.

"I want you to know," he says, "this wondrous plan of God's everlasting purpose of love. "I pray that the God and Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him; the eyes of your understanding being enlightened that you may know the hope of his calling and the riches and glory of this inheritance and the exceeding greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, which he wrought in Christ when he raised him from the dead and set him at his own right hand far above all principality and power and might and dominion and hath put all things under his feet and gave him to be head of all things to the Church which is his body."

See how this plan of God is working out.

Even you Gentiles come into this loving purpose who were aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, having no hope and without God in the world. Now you who were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. Now ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God built upon the foundations of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone.

God has allowed even me, the poor prisoner of Jesus Christ, to understand and teach this mystery which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men. To me who am the least of all saints was this grace given that I should preach among the