



Glorify the Creator

2 Cor. 5:14-18

*“The Wondrous Relationship of the
Creator with the New Creature”*

2 Cor. 5:14 For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that **if one died for all, then were all dead:**

15 And *that* he died for all, that **they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.**

16 Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we *him* no more.

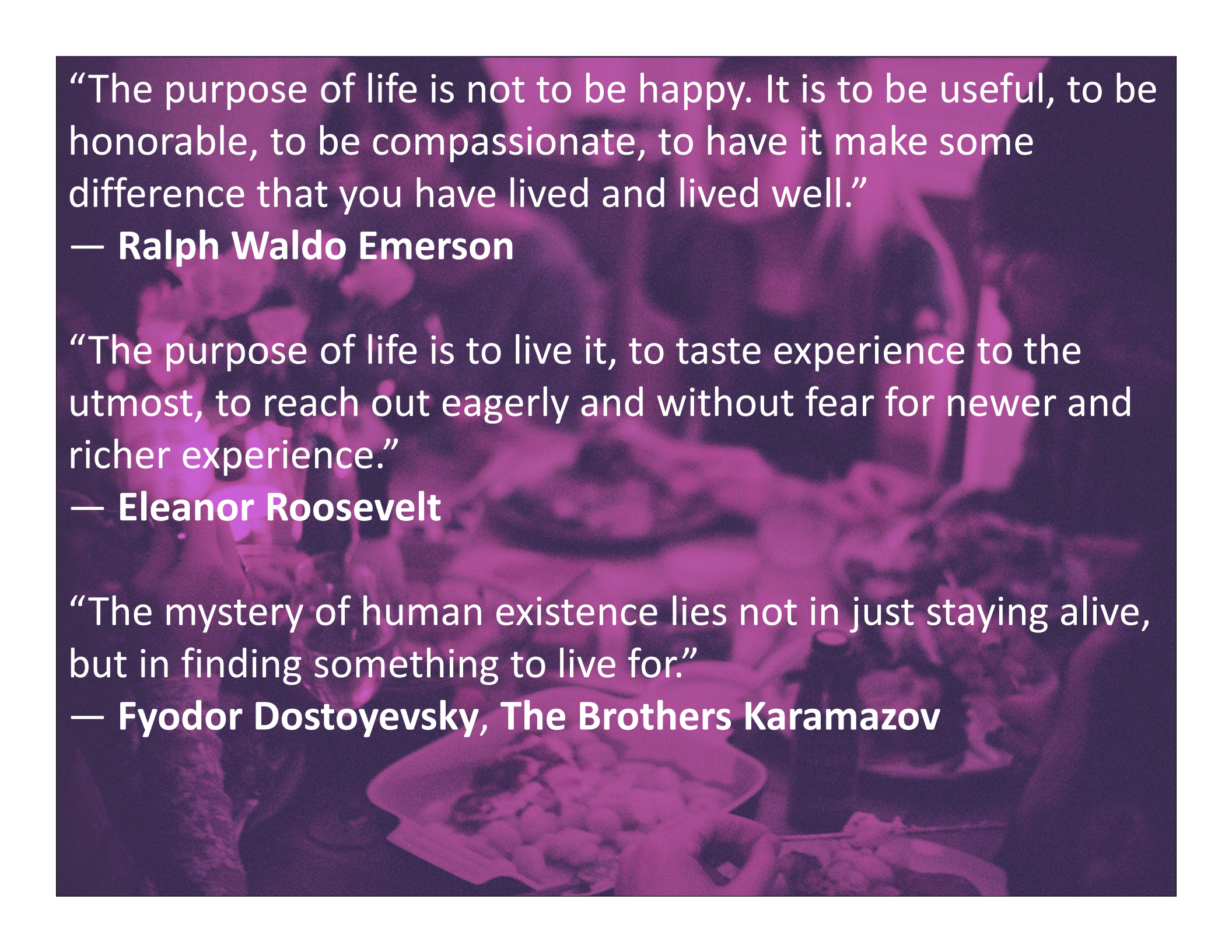
17 Therefore **if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature:** old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

18 And all things *are* of God, who hath **reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ,** and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath **committed unto us the word of reconciliation.**

20 **Now then we are ambassadors for Christ,** as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

21 For **he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin;** that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

A group of people are seated at a table in a restaurant, dining. The scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent purple filter. In the foreground, a plate of food, possibly dumplings or small pastries, is visible. The background shows other diners and the interior of the restaurant.

“The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.”

— **Ralph Waldo Emerson**

“The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience.”

— **Eleanor Roosevelt**

“The mystery of human existence lies not in just staying alive, but in finding something to live for.”

— **Fyodor Dostoyevsky, The Brothers Karamazov**

“You were put on this earth to achieve your greatest self, to live out your purpose, and to do it courageously.”

— **Steve Maraboli, *Life, the Truth, and Being Free***

“It is not that we have so little time but that we lose so much. ... The life we receive is not short but we make it so; we are not ill provided but use what we have wastefully.”

— **Seneca, *On the Shortness of Life***

“All religions, arts and sciences are branches of the same tree. All these aspirations are directed toward ennobling man's life, lifting it from the sphere of mere physical existence and leading the individual towards freedom.”

[*Moral Decay* (first published 1937)]”

— **Albert Einstein, *Out of My Later Years: The Scientist, Philosopher, and Man Portrayed Through His Own Words***

“If there is no God, then man and the universe are doomed. Like prisoners condemned to death, we await our unavoidable execution. There is no God, and there is no immortality. And what is the consequence of this? It means that life itself is absurd. It means that the life we have is without ultimate significance, value, or purpose.”

— **William Lane Craig, Reasonable Faith**

“To have a purpose in life was a wealth that could never be measured.”

— **Danielle Bennett, Dragon Soul**

<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/purpose-of-life?page=2>

Consider the logic of this passage:

- “...if one died for all, then were all dead...”
(Gen. 2:17, Rom. 5:12)

Eph 2:1 And **you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; ...**

5 **Even when we were dead in sins**, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

Col 2:13 And you, **being dead in your sins** and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

- “And *that* he died for all, that **they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.**”
- Conclusion = all of mankind is in the same boat, spiritual death, and God has a plan for all mankind to live.
- Such a plan is...

“The Wondrous Relationship of the Creator with the New Creature”

I. THE CREATOR’S INVOLVEMENT WITH HIS NEW CREATURE

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17 Therefore **if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature:** old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

A. The Creator's Plan

Isa. 43:7 *Even* every one that is called by my name: for **I have created him for my glory**, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.

Rev. 4:11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for **thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.**

- The Creator's plan is that mankind glorifies Him.

B. The Creature's Problem

Rom. 3:23 For **all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**

- The Creator's plan included knowledge that mankind would need a Savior.

Rev. 13:8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb **slain from the foundation of the world.**

1 Pet. 1:18 Forasmuch as ye know that **ye were not redeemed with corruptible things**, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers;

19 But **with the precious blood of Christ**, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

20 **Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world**, but was manifest in these last times for you,

- The Creator's plan was promised BEFORE the world began!

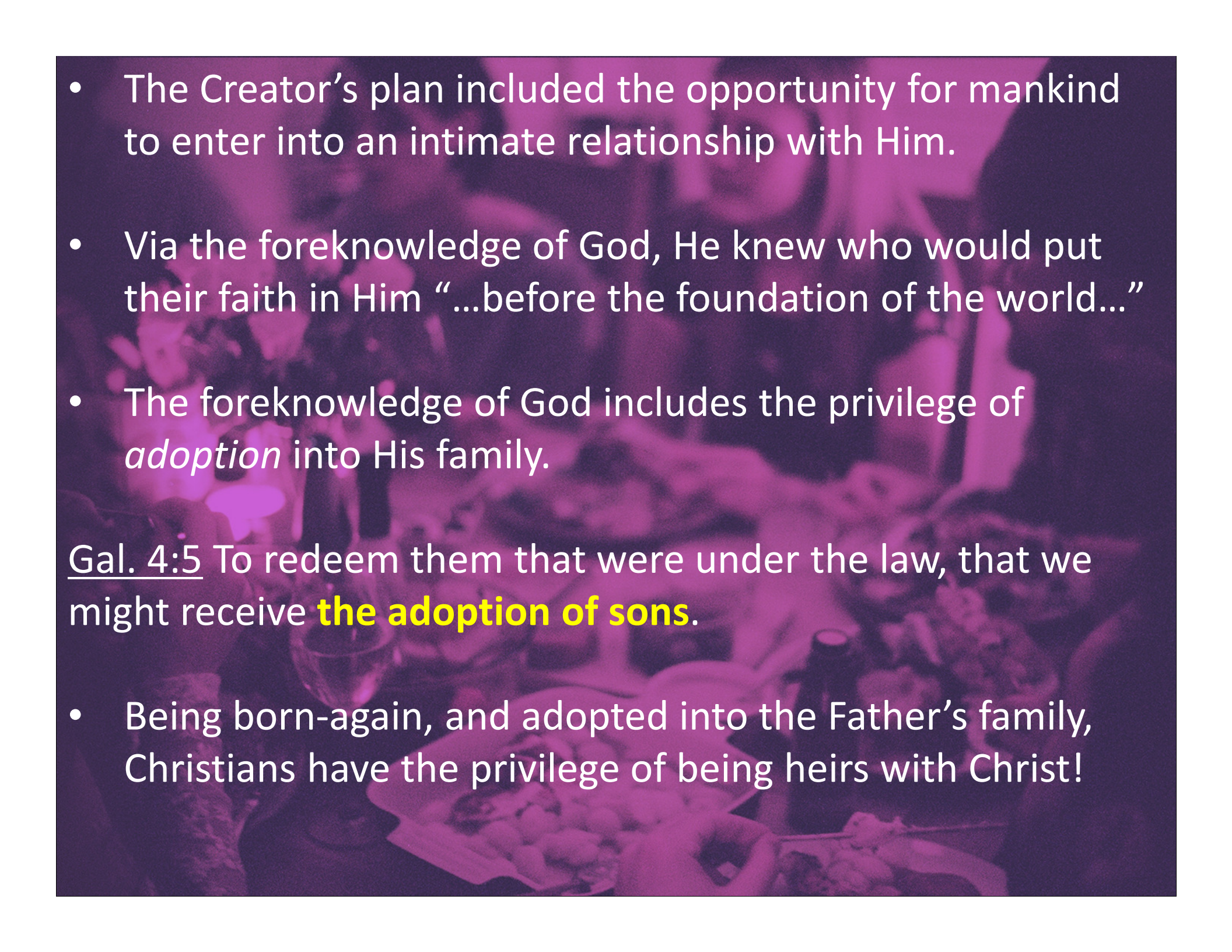
Titus 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, **promised before the world began;**

C. The Christian's Privilege

Eph. 1:4 According as he hath **chosen us in him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

5 **Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself**, according to the good pleasure of his will,

6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein **he hath made us accepted in the beloved.**

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- A group of people is gathered around a table, likely for a meal or a social gathering. The scene is dimly lit, and a purple overlay is applied to the entire image. The people are engaged in conversation and eating. The text is overlaid on the image in white and yellow.
- The Creator's plan included the opportunity for mankind to enter into an intimate relationship with Him.
 - Via the foreknowledge of God, He knew who would put their faith in Him "...before the foundation of the world..."
 - The foreknowledge of God includes the privilege of *adoption* into His family.

Gal. 4:5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive **the adoption of sons**.

- Being born-again, and adopted into the Father's family, Christians have the privilege of being heirs with Christ!

Rom. 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but **ye have received the Spirit of adoption**, whereby we cry, **Abba, Father**.

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that **we are the children of God**:

17 And **if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ**; if so be that we suffer with *him*, that we may be also glorified together.

- The wondrous relationship a believer can have with the Creator begins the moment a sinner repents from sins and puts faith in the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Rom. 3:22 Even **the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe**: for there is no difference:

Conclusion

2 Tim. 1:8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

9 **Who hath saved us, and called us** with an holy calling, not according to our works, but **according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,**