The Way is Prepared Part 2 Sunday May 21, 2023 Pastor Pete Norris

"He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil." I John 3:8 NKJV

"And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth." **Matthew 28:18 NKJV**

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." I Peter 5:8 NKJV

"Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it." **Colossians 2:15 NKJV**

"In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea." **Isaiah 27:1 KJV**

"Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." **Hebrews 13:20-21 KJV**

"I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours." **John 4:38 KJV**

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:" **Ephesians 1:3 KJV**

The everlasting Covenant was cut in the midst of the Godhead between the Father and the Son. We have a beautiful picture of this in the covenants of Abraham and David.

"And he said, Lord GOD, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it. **Genesis** 15:8 KJV

"And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces."

Genesis 15:17 KJV

The "smoking furnace" pictures the Father. The "burning lamp" pictures the Son.

"When God made his promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself, saying, "I will surely bless you and give you many descendants."" **Hebrews 6:13-14 NIV**

You and I were blessed before we were born.

"And Jonathan said to David, Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the name of the LORD, saying, The LORD be between me and thee, and between my seed and thy seed forever. And he arose and departed: and Jonathan went into the city." **1 Samuel 20:42 KJV**

A generational contract was cut between the Father and the Son that was agreed upon between David and Jonathan, son of King Saul. Mephibosheth, the grandson of king Saul and son of Prince Jonathan was injured and left crippled.

"And David said, Is there yet any that is left of the house of Saul, that I may shew him kindness for Jonathan's sake?" **2 Samuel 9:1 KJV**

"And David said unto him, Fear not: for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually." 2 Samuel 9:7 KJV

"So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem: for he did eat continually at the king's table; and was lame on both his feet." **2 Samuel 9:13 KJV**

"And Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son that was lame of his feet. He was five years old when the tidings came of Saul and Jonathan out of Jezreel, and his nurse took him up, and fled: and it came to pass, as she made haste to flee, that

he fell, and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth." **2 Samuel 4:4 KJV**

You and I were dropped and left crippled in sin by the first Adam. Mephibosheth was living in Lodebar (a place of no pasture) when David sent for him.

Both demonstrate the far-reaching love and unsurpassed power of the "everlasting covenant."

"For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him." **Isaiah 64:4 KJV**

"But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, Neither have entered into the heart of man, The things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." **1 Corinthians 2:9-10 KJV**

The good things that God 'hath prepared" and ordained for us are not future blessings but were created by Him "since the beginning of the world! We were blessed in Him before the foundation of the world. The word for "prepared" means "to provide or make ready; to make necessary preparations, to get everything ready." The ideal is sending a person ahead to level the roads and make them more passable to receive one coming. Prepared is in the aorist tense which denotes a definitive point of time, especially in the past.

"Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec." **Hebrews 6:19-20 KJV**

Jesus was sent ahead to clear the way and to be the way (path or road) for His church, His "royal priesthood," the "kings and priests" who follow in His steps.

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6 KJV