Worship God

Ephesians 1:10 with a view to an administration or dispensation suitable to the fullness of the times or with a view to a dispensation of the fullness of the times, that is the summing up of all things in Christ

Let's make clear the fullness of the times and the summing up of all things in Christ.

Ephesians 1:10 with a view to an administration or dispensation to the fullness of the times that is to the fulfillment of the times

Two things I want you to be clear on here: First, the Greek word for time is not the normal word for time. Secondly, note it is in the plural –fullness of the times.

Let's understand this as 'a distinct period in time' or 'time as an epic.' It is used for dispensations or even as a succession of events in one dispensation. It can mean 'of the fulfillment of the times that is the measure of epics in the period of times' or 'in the period of measure of a dispensation.'

Now look at the fullness which means full measure.

Let's simplify this phrase to 'the fulfillment of measurement of epics' or 'the full measure of dispensations' which refers to the last and the full measure of all the dispensations. This refers to the fullness of all the time in human history of the reign of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 1:10 ...With reference to the dispensation of the fulfillment of measure of times, that is the summing up of all things.

Now, we have to understand "the fullness of the times" and in addition now "the summing up of all things." This is referring to the time of mankind from creation to the end of human time. This Greek word is used but twice in the New Testament. This word means to sum up or gather up or bring together or even to unite.

To bring everyone under one head or to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, that is under Christ.

What this verse is saying is that everything has been put under Jesus Christ as the head of all times and all things and all people.

To help you grasp what is being taught with this word, "the summing up of all things" this Greek word is used only here and in

Romans 13:9. For this, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

This one Law, Love your neighbor as yourself, summarizes or is summing up <u>all laws under this one</u>. Therefore, to make this clear, this verse brings all things in heaven and earth under Jesus Christ.

So here in Ephesians 1:10 it means "to bring together under one head," that is under Christ, in all things under the heavens and here on earth. When is this perfect full time that causes God to bring to a point where it

is right before God to bring all things to the glory of God. Now, when is this? This is a reference to the Millennium!

So let's take just a quick look at some top points about the Millennium.

- 1. This is the Millennium or the Age of Christ.
- 2. This will start off with learning from God how Eternity will be. It will start off in Perfect Environment. One reason for the Perfect Environment will be because Satan will be bound (Revelation 20:1-3) Another reason is that there will be no religion starting off the Millennium. The beginning of the Millennium is so wonderful because there is no Satan. Remember, the perfect condition of mankind continued until Satan came in and led man into sin. Religion led mankind to the sinful condition of the flood, then religion led man to the period of the construction of Babel. It was religion that put the period of the Church Age in darkness because the religion of the Roman Catholic Church tried to keep mankind from the study of the Bible. Today, one of the strongest sinful movements is from religion. Religion advances homosexuality, and the breakdown of the family. Perfect Environment cannot exist where there is religion. Religion is not Christianity and Christianity is not religion. Religion cannot and will not be stopped or destroyed by mankind. Jesus Christ will end religion at the beginning of the Millennium.
- 3. One of the most wonderful events in the beginning of the Millennium will be the most conducive favorite for Spirituality throughout the world.

Joel 2:28 "It will come about after this That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and your daughters will prophesy, Your

old men will dream dreams, Your young men will see visions.

Joel 2:29 And even on the male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

- 4. In the Millennium there will be the Peace of Jerusalem. People throughout Jerusalem have signs asking for the Peace of Jerusalem. This prayer is for the coming of the Messiah. Look at Psalm 122:6, 'pray for the peace of Jerusalem.' Remember there are some historical events that must come before the Peace of Jerusalem: the Rapture of the Church and Tribulation, and the return of Jesus, and then Armageddon and the taking out of the unbelieving Gentiles and the unbelieving Jews all these must happen in the world before the Peace of Jerusalem covers over the world. Isaiah 65:19; Joel 2:16ff.; Zechariah 10:6-12.
- 5. The Millennium will experience the fulfillment of the unconditional covenants to Israel mentioned in Daniel 9:24. This will be the fulfillment of the Abrahamic, the Palestinian, the Davidic covenants and the New Covenant to Israel. No matter all the anti-Semitism in the world, including World War 2, will not end the existence of Jews, for God keeps His Word.
- 6. This will be Perfect Environment here on earth for the first time since the sin of Adam. Isaiah 2:4; Hosea 2:18; Psalm 46:9; Micah 4:3. This will accompany universal Prosperity Psalm 72:7 & 16. There will be perfect world peace as in Isaiah 11:1-2 & Zechariah 14:9.
- 7. Something else that many of us will love in Millennium: perfect fair Justice.

Isaiah 11:3 And He will delight in the fear of the Lord, And He will not judge by what His eyes see, Nor make decisions by what His ears hear;

Isaiah 11:4 But with righteousness He will judge the poor, And decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth; And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.

Isaiah 11:5 Also righteousness will be the belt about His lions, And faithfulness the belt around His waist. Also Psa. 72:12-14;

8. The Millennium begins with a population of believers only. Remember all civilizations begin with believers only. This will change in the Millennium as the population increases.

Ephesians 1:10 with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on earth in Him

At the end of all things, God the father will gather all things in Christ. making all things into the eternal state.

To see all that is involved here in verse 10, note

1 Corinthians 15:24 then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power.

1 Corinthians 15:25 For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.

Here we see the end of all history. The divine authority reaches into all creation

- 1 Corinthians 15:26 The last enemy that will be abolished is death. (end of death, by the victory by Jesus Christ by His own resurrection.)
- 1 Corinthians 15:27 For He has put all things in subjection under His feet. But when He says, "All things are put in subjection," it is evident that this excludes the *Father* who put all things in subjection to Him.

I want you to put the Bible together: The perfect, worshiping place at the beginning of the earth as seen by Adam and Eve in the garden. <u>But</u> then, all is torn in the history of the earth as seen in Genesis chapters 1-3. The end of time will be the beginning of the eternal blessing for all who are in Him, as per Revelation chapter 22. All torn in Genesis 1-3 and so seen throughout the Bible, but then in Revelation chapter 22 all is in peace and glory for all eternity.

1 Corinthians 15:28 When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all. (And so it will be throughout eternity.)

Ephesians 1:11 also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will.

The NASV loses some of the dynamic of Jesus Christ in the opening of verse 11. It says **also we** while the text says

in whom also. that is in Jesus Christ—meaning that Jesus Christ is continually doing wonderful glories in His own works.

we have obtained an inheritance. This is just a single word in the Greek and is the only time in the New Testament where this verb appears. Now here is something that is so important to every believer. It is an *Aorist Passive Indicative*, which I am showing for its importance. That *passive voice* means that we receive this inheritance in our relationship with God. But the *aorist tense* along with the *indicative mood* means that all believers already possess this inheritance. Everyone of us already has been assured of this inheritance. Also, the *passive voice* tells us we did not obtain this by our own works but by the grace of God in Christ who gave it to us. People, this is a wonderful grace gift we have already received from Jesus Christ. There are many such gifts that have already been given to us. Since you have already received many gifts from God, do not ever become sad about life. You have gifts to be thankful to God.

Romans 8:16 The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are <u>children of God</u>,

Romans 8:17 and if children (since children), heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

Romans 8:18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

Oh, people, America was clothed in grace, in this nation for a long time, but now we are moving to be like nations throughout history and suffer in Christ.

Also remember 1 Corinthians 3:21 and 23:

- 1 Corinthians 3:21 So then let no one boast in men. For all things belong to you...
- 1 Corinthians 3:23 and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God.

Ephesians 1:11 In whom also we have already obtained this inheritance having been predestined

The Greek word translated *predestined* means to *determine or set boundaries beforehand*. "The only subject for this Greek verb is God or His Plan." (The Complete Biblical Library) You will note from Ephesians 1:5 speaks of those whom God has determined beforehand as adoptions. Ephesians 1:11 speaks of those determined beforehand according to the purpose of God. You will also note here the use of the *passive voice* we just noted in the word obtained an inheritance' and here we see it again used to reveal that every believer in the Church Age receives from the person of God predetermined.

Ephesians 1:11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance having been predetermined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will.

A correct study of the entire New Testament will make known to all those who study the Word of God, <u>God's purpose</u>: to give honor to those in the Church Age who have an inheritance with Jesus Christ. A rich time of study is the prayer by Jesus Christ in John 17.

The purpose of God or 'God works for the good of those whom He purposed to call.' Note the use of this word in

Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are <u>called</u> according to <u>His purpose</u>.

The teaching of this verse is so often missed. The "called people" is a reference to those in the Church. He not only works to purpose those who love Him but to all who are called in this age, that is the Church Age.

Ephesians 1:12 to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory.

This refers to every believer in the Church Age. We, in the Church Age, have the grace of God to live in the greatest time in history. Whether you live under this greatness depends entirely on your living in the power of the Holy Spirit and pressing on to maturity by means of the study of the Word of God.

The purpose of God is that we should praise the Glory of God. Glory is referred to eight times in the first three chapters of Ephesians.

Glory

This is one of the most precious words in the entire Bible. This word has many different references, but for us the most important use of this word is referring to God the Father and of His Son. Therefore, we will set aside from all the other references to this word and concentrate on the Glory of God.

I. The fundamental idea of 'glory' is reference to the divine attributes, to the visible magnificence of His. The highest aim of the Word of God, the highest fulfillment of the Word of God is to declare the glory of God. I beg you to slow down in your busy days to just think of and give praise to the glory of God. Just meditate on

Psalm 19:1 the heavens are declaring the glory of God and their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.

Don't spend your time arguing with the creation of the universe, just sit in silence and praise God for the glory of His creation. When you have children in your life, be sure they praise the Glory of His creation, including themselves, and then the gospel will be so easy and so right in their mind.

Think on Romans 9:23 and note the reference to His Glory twice in this one verse:

Romans 9:23 And He did so to make known the riches of His glory (that is reference to His divine attributes like, love, grace, mercy etc) upon vessels (Christians, believers) of mercy, which He prepared beforehand for glory.

You have been created by God, foreordained to praise of the glory of His grace. Remember

Ephesians 1:6 " to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

And of course:

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;

Ephesians 2:9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

And another beautiful passage on creation and glory is

Revelation 4:11 "Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created."

I hope that you have this as a real living goal in your life. We can talk about witnessing, we can talk about pressing to maturity but the completeness of our being is to glorify and praise the Glory of God.

The earth was created in His glory, but sin and Satan polluted the glory of God. But people, please always remember that the earth will return to the glory of God.

Isaiah 40:5 Then the glory of the Lord will be revealed. And all flesh will see it together; For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

Let's summarize what we are seeing.

Glory is for the seeing of Divine Attributes.

All Creation is for the revealing of Divine Glory.

We are created by the Glory of God.

We are created to glorify God.

Praise God daily for His Glory

Always remember why you were created.

Isaiah 43:7 Everyone who is called by My name, And whom I have created for My glory, Whom I have formed, even whom I have created."

- II. The book of Ephesians has revealed to us why we are here.
 - 1:6 To the praise of the glory of His grace
 - 1:12 That we should be to the Praise of His glory
 - 1:14 to the praise of His Glory
 - 1:17 The God of our Lord Jesus Christ...The father of Glory
 - 1:18 and what the riches of the glory of His inheritance
 - 3:16 grant you, according to the riches of His glory

3:21 to Him be given the glory for the church in Christ Jesus

III. The Mission of the Church

What is the Mission of the Church? So many have different primary missions of the Church. But if we examine the Word of God we can easily find the answer to what the mission of the church is. Not doing it is another!

Romans15:6 so that with one purpose and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Also look at:

2 Thessalonians 1:12 so that the name of our Lord Jesus will be glorified in you, and you in Him, in accordance with the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. Here is the Mission of the Church as proclaimed by the Word of God.

How beautifully this is given to us:

1 Peter. 4:11 Whoever speaks is to do so as one who is speaking actual words of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; (by Holy Spirit) SO that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

We glorify God by worshiping Him:

Philippians 3:3 for we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God (Holy Spirit) and glory in Christ Jesus, and put no confidence in the flesh,

Note one of the few statements by John in

Revelation 22:9 And he said to me, "Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brothers the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God!"

John 4:23 But an hour is coming, and now is, when the <u>true worshipers</u> will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.

John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in Spirit and truth."