A Plan for All Time

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A long time ago, a counsel of great leaders discussed a plan to expand the family of Almighty God. This meeting is mentioned in various scriptures throughout God's word, the Bible. Some of these references are challenging to understand due to the manner in which they are translated. This study will examine one such example.

You who laid the foundations of the earth, so that it should not be moved forever (Psalm 104:5; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted).

Some Bible commentators have mentioned that the section "who laid the foundations of the earth" should be translated as "founded the earth upon her bases". Therefore, a closer look at this portion of Psalm 104:5 is warranted. The original Hebrew for "who laid" is SHD #3245, which can vary slightly in meaning but collectively a common theme emerges.

To sit down together, settle, consult, take counsel, appoint, ordain, establish (as laws; Psalm 119:152; Hab. 1:12).

In Psalm 119:152, SHD # 3245 is used to describe God "ordaining" or "establishing" His law as a means through which His creation would be governed to ensure peace and happiness while His family expanded.

Concerning Your testimonies, I have known of old that You have founded (SHD # 3245) them forever (Psalm 119:152).

In the context of God's judgment of sinners, the Hebrew word # 3245 is used to show that these individuals are "scheduled", or "appointed" to give account for their sins at a future date.

Are You not from everlasting, O Lord my God, my Holy One? We shall not die. O Lord, You have appointed (SHD # 3245) them (sinners) for judgment; O Rock, You have marked them for correction (Hab. 1:12).

So going back now to Psalm 104:5, it should be more accurately rendered as "*You who took counsel to establish from the beginning of creation the laws that would maintain order.*" These laws would have a direct effect on whatever the "foundations" represent (SHD # 4349). Therefore, the original Hebrew word translated into the English word "foundations" needs to be examined.

There are a few instances where SHD # 4349 is used and the context is: "a habitation; or dwelling place".

I have surely built You an exalted house, and a place (SHD # 4349) for You to dwell in forever (IKgs. 8:13).

Then hear in heaven Your dwelling place (SHD # 4349), and forgive.... (1Kgs. 8:39a).

By adding SHD # 3245 with SHD # 4349, we come up with a more accurate understanding of what the leaders in the spirit realm were discussing.

"You who took counsel to establish from the beginning of creation the laws that would maintain order in the habitation, or dwelling place of those who would be created." The name given to this habitation was "earth" (SHD # 776), which is also used to describe "ground", "lands", "countries", "regions", "nations" and "the world." Therefore, by adding one of these words, Psalm 104:5 would read as,

You who took counsel to establish from the beginning of creation the laws that would maintain order in the habitation, or dwelling place of those who would be created to inherit the earth.

> AND ACCORDING TO THE LAW ALMOST ALL THINGS ARE CLEANSED WITH BLOOD, AND WITHOUT SHEDDING OF BLOOD THERE IS NO FORGIVENESS. Hebrews 9:22; cf. Leviticus 5:7, 11-13; 17:11

The last part of Psalm 104:5 states, "So that it (the earth) should not be moved" (SHD # 4131), which means: *totter, shake, be overthrown, fall.* This is prophetic, showing that Almighty God did not intend that His family fail in the ultimate sense of the word (1Chr. 16:30). Therefore, even if someone did choose to break God's law, there would be a solution to deal with this probability.

And all who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of **the Lamb slain from the foundation of the earth** (Rev. 13:8; emphasis added).

The decision, and the method, for dealing with sin was an integral part of the counsel that was taking place at this time in the distant past. The specific law that would take effect is described in various scriptures and ultimately fulfilled through the death of Jesus Christ (Mt. 5:17). And according to the law almost all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness (Heb. 9:22; cf. Lev. 5:7, 11-13; 17:11).

How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God (Heb. 9:14; cf. Eph. 2:13).

In conclusion, an extended rendering of Psalm 104:5, to include a number of the possible meanings provided by the original Hebrew words, would read as follows:

"You who took counsel to establish from the beginning of creation the laws that would maintain order in the habitation, or dwelling place, of those who would be created to inherit the earth, and these laws will insure that the earth will not be overthrown forever, if sin occurs."

This document is the collaborative work of individuals who believe God's truth should be given freely (Mt. 10:8; 1Cor. 2:12; 2Cor.11:7; Rom. 10:14-21) and the message of the one true God should be made available to all nations (Mt. 24:14) as a prerequisite to the return of Jesus Christ as King of kings (Mt. 17:10; 19:17; Mk. 9:11; Lk. 1:17; Rev. 19:11-16).

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