

Purposed to Righteousness

Thy people also shall be all righteous: they shall inherit the land for ever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified. (Isaiah 60:21)

This surely was God's Sovereign will from all eternity that all His chosen people should be righteous. God has decreed that His elect should be holy and without blame and put them in union with Jesus Christ His Son. (Ephesians 1:3-6)

Therefore these who *shall be righteous* were planted in Christ as their federal head and were before the foundation of the world "*accepted in the beloved.*" Yet this righteousness that God decreed must also be performed by Jesus Christ in time. For we read of God's Sovereign counsel and will that all He has purposed in eternity must be accomplished in time. (Isaiah 46:10; 55:11; Psalm 33:9)

Therefore Jesus has come into the world according to the scriptures to accomplish the righteousness of His church. (Daniel 9:24) This work of salvation is the work of Christ's own hands. Christ said, "*Lo I come in the volume of the book it is written of me to do thy will O God.*" Christ "*delighted*" to do the will of God and by the "*which will we are sanctified through offering of the body of Christ once for all*". (Hebrews 10:7-8)

Behold how we were born in the blackness and darkness of sin, yet God has purposed that we should be righteous and blameless by the work of Jesus Christ alone. (Titus 3:3-7; Ezekiel 36:29-32) We sat in darkness but now the Light of the gospel has risen upon our hearts and revealed that Christ has by His one offering put away our sins and has reconciled us to God. (Isaiah 60:2) Jesus our federal head has brought in everlasting righteousness by His obedience to God. Therefore rejoice all you who believe on Him alone, for God has also decreed that we should inherit the land for ever, which is eternal life (John 10:28; 1 Peter 1:4) And this inheritance is most sure even because our salvation is eternally in union with the glory of God. All our salvation is for this purpose: "*that I may be glorified.*" (Ephesians 1:6; 12; 14) Shall God's glory fail? No! And neither shall our salvation which God purposed, Christ accomplished and the Holy Spirit applies and

Keeps.

– F.E