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The Herald of His Grace

Presenting every man mature in Christ Jesus. Colossians 1:28

Volume 43
Issue 1073

“Out” – “Through” – “To” Bible Student's Courses

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Course 1: God / Unit 7: The Divine Cycle / Lesson 6: “Out” – “Through” – “To”

by — Mark D. Vogt

For out of Him, and through Him, and to Him is all ... (Romans 11:36, BSV).

Key Points:

Everything originates from God — not some things, not just spiritual things, but all things.....9005
Everything flows through God as part of His active involve-

ment.....9007
Everything is returning to God – for His glory and purpose.....9007

“OUT”

All is out of God. This simple yet profound statement of Romans 11:36, that is further enhanced when II Corinthians 5:18 is taken into consideration, is perhaps the most comprehensive verse in God's Word.

Yet all is of God, Who conciliates us to Himself through Christ, and is giving us the dispensation of the conciliation (II Corinthians 5:18, CV).



Does anyone, after thinking about it long and hard, really believe that we exist in a Universe that is running its course in randomness and chance, and that God simply is hanging on and hoping for the best? If that is the case, then He is not much of a God, and certainly not one to warrant praise and worship. If this is the reality, then none of His promises are sure, and we of all people would be most miserable. Thanks be to God that this is not the case – for “ALL is out of Him.”

He possesses ALL wisdom, ALL knowledge, and ALL sovereignty, and hence “ALL is of God.” “All” thus means everything, no matter what!

This should seem simple and profound to one who actually believes God's Word, but in the eyes of the religious system “all” cannot *really* mean “all,” for “all” doesn't leave any wiggle room for humanity's supposed “free will,” the imaginary “fall” of Satan, and the fictitious “eternal conscious torment” of the unbeliever.

“All” means the *entire* physical creation – *all* of the thoughts of every being in God's Universe, *all* secondary creative forces in His Universe, and anything else our feeble minds could think of.

“THROUGH”

“All” is out of God, but “all” is “through Him” as well.

(continued on page 9007)

“Out” – “Through” – “To” (Bible Student's Courses).....	9005
The God Who Created Evil (Bible Student's Courses)	9008
God Never Misses His Mark (Bible Student's Courses)	9009
God's Plan Is Operating Toward a Glorious Conclusion (Bible Student's Courses) ...	9011

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Bible Student's Notebook™

Paul Our Guide – Christ Our Goal

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Volume 43, No. 1073 – June 2, 2025

Scripture education in a weekly format!

This free electronic publication is dedicated to:

- the absolute sovereignty and deity of God (Romans 11:36);
- the proclamation of the riches of God's abundant, exceeding grace (Romans 5:20; 11:6; Ephesians 1:7);
- the affirmation that God will save all through the death, burial and resurrection of Christ (I Timothy 2:3-4; 4:10; Titus 2:11);
- the universality of death and resurrection (I Corinthians 15:21);
- the unique gospel of Paul – which he calls "my gospel" (Romans 2:16; 16:25; II Timothy 2:8; I Corinthians 15:1-4; Acts 13-28; Acts 20:24);
- the "preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret in ages past" (Romans 16:25);
- the epistles of the present Secret Administration being Ephesians & Colossians (Ephesians 3:2, 9; Colossians 1:25);
- true freedom and liberty apart from law (Galatians 5:1);
- the organic nature of the One Body (Ephesians 4:16);
- the Secret Administration, being the operational revelation for today (Ephesians 3:9);
- the unprophesied, Celestial hope and calling of the One Body (Colossians 3:4);
- the distinct message and ministry of Paul, the apostle to the nations (Ephesians 3:1-3);
- the importance of receiving all whom Christ has received (Romans 14-15);
- the recovery of rich Biblical truth that has too long remained hidden under the veils of traditionalism, prejudice,

misunderstanding and fear (Mark 7:7, 13);

- the completeness of the believer in Christ (Colossians 2:10), with:
 - total freedom from sins (Colossians 1:14);
 - union in His death, burial and resurrection and ascended seated position among the celestials (Ephesians 2:6);
 - adult sonship position (Ephesians 1:5).

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We are always open for discussion, but never for disputation. – André Sneidar

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So, what exactly does that mean? The actual understanding of this is not hard for those who actually believe the record that God has given us. The issue is that most don’t believe this because it infringes on their doctrine of “free will.” Most people cannot give up their imagined autonomy.

People who believe in “free will” bring down God from His lofty position, while at the same time elevating mankind. The product of this is to make mankind think that they are in control and able to run their own lives.

This type of thinking is blatantly self-centered and self-serving. Imagine if there were actually eight billion plus little deities running about doing “their own thing.” If one would sit and think about the ramifications of such an idea, a person could quite easily conclude that supposed “free will” is not only contrary to Scripture, but is totally illogical.

Therefore, if human “free will” is a vain concept, then all of the *deciding* that goes on is done by the *only* One Who truly has free will and knows what He is doing, and that is none other than God our Father.

So, then we come to the question, What does it mean when Scripture says that “*all is through Him*”?

The deist believes that God *started* it all, but is now sitting back and taking a “hands off” approach and is observing how humanity handles everything, waiting to see how it will all turn out. This is just another fanciful

way of believing that creation has “free will.”

Yet, this is not the truth. *“All” is working “through Him”* in order for God’s Master Plan (*Logos*) to reach fruition:

Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, “My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure” (Isaiah 46:10, KJV).

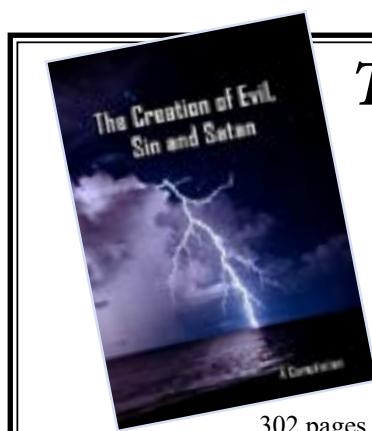
“To”

God has a glorious Plan, and that Plan came *out* of Him (not *ex-nihilo*, or out of nothing, as many seem to think). All came *out* of Him, all is *through* Him, and all is going back to Him or *for* Him.

Think of it in terms of a manufacturing plant that takes raw materials to process a finished product. That is what God is doing. He produces the raw materials (*“all is out of Him”*), then He takes it through the refining process (*“all is through Him”*), and then the finished product will return back to Him (*“all is to Him”*).

God has never taken a “hands off” approach with His Universe, for He is fully invested in the entire process, and intends to see it through to an utter and glorious ending, all of which is not really an ending, but a new beginning.

What is clear is that God’s Plan (Romans 11:36) is the prelude to something so big, and so wonderful, that at (see [BSC 1-7-6, last page](#))



302 pages

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The God Who Created Evil

Bible Student's Courses

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Course 1: GOD / Unit 7 - The Divine Cycle / Lesson 7 - The God Who Created Evil

by — Mark D. Vogt

For out of Him, and through Him, and to Him is all ... (Romans 11:36, BSV).

Key Points:

God created evil – on purpose.....	9008	Sin and evil are temporary tools.....	9008
Evil exists to provide contrast.....	9008	No guilt in the end—only glory.....	9010

Since we believe Romans 11:36, then scripturally we should see no problem in assigning to God, the Source of all, even the creation of evil.

However, isn't that just too radical? Surely God cannot be linked in any manner or form with anything associated with evil.

Nonetheless, the most obvious declaration of Scripture concerning this is found in Isaiah 45:6-7. It is not a mere hint, or a subtle suggestion. It is a profound declaration.

That they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one apart from Me; I am Yahweh, and there is no other. Former of light and Creator of darkness, maker of good and Creator of evil, I Yahweh, make all these things (CV).

The question that should be asked then, is why would God make this statement if this wasn't true?

Yet, since He did in fact make the statement, then it certainly is true. The next question then is, Why does God do this? For what purpose is evil in His Universe then?

In order for God to demonstrate His love for all humanity and care for all things that He created (Job 14:15) He must have a backdrop, or a contrast, which is in opposition to His love and care. Humanity doesn't really know and understand things unless there is some sort of contrast which will enable us to see the value of that which is being contrasted.

One cannot appreciate warmth unless one has been

very cold. One cannot appreciate abundance unless one has been deprived of the necessities of life. Almost everything is a contrast, and God teaches us many things about Himself and His *Logos*, either directly or indirectly, through His Word and by the contrasts in the world in which we live.

God paints upon the dark canvas of the ages with broad strokes of vibrant color. The darkness of the background includes sin and evil. How else does God teach us about His great love, and the indescribable grace that He bestows upon us, unless we experience the exact opposite, so that we might see the beautiful contrast?

Adam and Eve knew neither good nor evil before their sin. They really knew nothing of God's love and grace because they never experienced anything but bliss, and even then they didn't appreciate it because of a lack of contrast. Only when they partook of the forbidden fruit did they know both good and evil.

God hates sin and evil, but He introduced them into His creation to give the needed contrast. They are for our learning and are necessary for us to be able to love and appreciate Him. That can't be done without the reality of sin and evil, hence the required contrast.

When sin and evil have fully played their role in God's wise Plan, He will then banish both from His Universe, never to be seen again. In fact, God will eventually justify all sin and evil. God will fully demonstrate the absolute necessity of sin and evil in His Plan in order to bring about His desired result of complete harmony and love in His Universe.

*(see **EVIL**, page 9010)*



God Never Misses His Mark

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Course 1: GOD / Unit 7: The Divine Cycle / Lesson 8: God Never Misses His Mark

by — Mark D. Vogt

Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, "My counsel shall stand, and I will do ALL MY PLEASURE" (Isaiah 46:10).

Key Points:

God always hits the bullseye	9009	Evil will end – but only after it has served its purpose..... 9010
The "fall" of satan undermines god's sovereignty.....	9010	

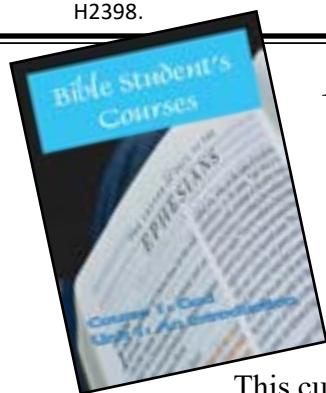
As we have seen in a previous lesson, "missing the mark" is the definition of sin. In *Judges 20:16* one can see the definition of the word "miss" used in this verse by going to *Strong's Concordance*.¹

While humanity constantly "misses" its perceived target, our Heavenly Father, on the other hand, *never* "misses." When God targets something, He always hits the perfect "bullseye." Nothing ever deviates from the Placer's Plan (*Logos*).

Not only that, but everything is always done flawlessly on time. He is never too soon, and never too late. Since all is "out of God" and is operating "through Him" (Romans 11:36), then everything that happens occurs because of His wise plan and the precision of His purpose.

One of the greatest examples of this is the introduction of sin and evil into His Universe. Christianity will teach, in an effort to shield God from any association with sin and evil, that the Adversary (Satan) was created in perfection and without blemish, but at some early stage of his existence wickedness and rebellion was found in him and he "fell."

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There are two serious issues with this line of reasoning.

First, if this is what really happened, and rebellion was found in Satan, and God didn't put it there in the first place, then that rebellion and wickedness was self-generated by Satan. This would mean that the "Adversary" was his own creator. If that was the case, this means that there is more than one creative force in the Universe – and if there are two creative forces in the Universe, could there be more than just these two? And if there are more than two, how many more?

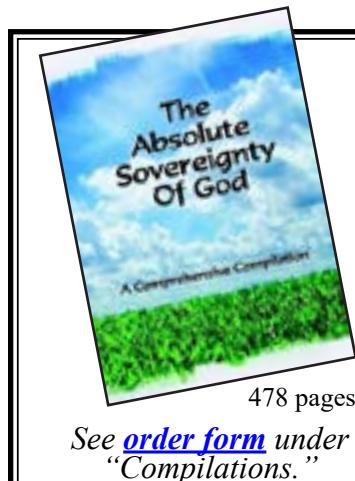
As one goes down this slippery slope of reasoning, the God of Scripture becomes smaller and smaller and the creatures begin to be self-elevated, higher and higher. Christianity, unknowingly or not, has been demeaning God ever since the deceptive teaching of Satan's "fall" was introduced.

Secondly, if this was what truly occurred, and God did not *intend* for it to occur, then God Himself is guilty of "missing" (*i.e.*, sinning), for if He never planned Satan's position as "Adversary," then He missed the mark in creating him in perfection.

EVIL (continued from page 9008)

Therefore, no one will be made to feel guilty about their sin, for they will see that God used it to bring about their salvation, and the salvation of all humanity, and the reconciliation of the entire creation.

To doubt this, or to hang onto any guilt about sin, is to insert oneself into the process and to question His wisdom and ability to use those things for His glorious end. We simply rest as God carries out His



In this faulty theory, God created a being that He intended to be perfect and missed in His design. If that is the case, then God is not one to be fully trusted, since His creature can deviate from His plan and intention.

Yet, we would do well to be reminded,

That they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one apart from Me; I am Yahweh, and there is no other. Former of light and Creator of darkness, Maker of good and Creator of evil, I, Yahweh, make all these things (Isaiah 45:6-7).

God always hits His mark perfectly square on. He created evil and brought sin into the world for a very specific purpose: to serve as a backdrop to demonstrate His grace, mercy and loving kindness, and one day it will have fully accomplished His purpose, and He will remove it from His Universe. Then His whole creation will acknowledge Him for His wise and loving Plan. **BSN**

TOPICS:

Major: Evil; God; Sin; Sovereignty

Minor: Grace; Logos; Love

perfect plan,

For us, who love God, who are the called according to His purpose, there is an awareness that He is working all together for good (Romans 8:28, BSV).

BSN

TOPICS:

Major: Contrast; Evil; God; Sin; Sovereignty

Minor: Justification; Logos; Reconciliation

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God's Plan Is Operating Toward a Glorious Conclusion

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Bible Student's Courses

Course 1: GOD / Unit 7: The Divine Cycle / Lesson 9: God's Plan Is Operating Toward a Glorious Conclusion

by — Mark D. Vogt

... According to the purpose of the One Who is operating all in accord with the counsel of His will (Ephesians 1:11, CV).

Key Points:

God has a sovereign, unstoppable plan. 9011
Sin and evil serve a temporary, divine purpose. 9011

The Goal: Universal Reconciliation. 9011

That God has a Plan (*Logos*) is without question. Self-determinists, with their doctrine of "free will," deny that God has an *absolute* plan. However, this does not alter the sure facts of Scripture.

to bring about His Goal was to bring evil and sin into the world, and to use these as the backdrop in order to demonstrate His love and compassion for humanity.

Only One has free will in the entire Universe, and that is our Sovereign Father, and yet, even He is restricted to some extent, for He could never do something that was contrary to His very essence – which is love.

God always has the long view in sight. We humans are nearsighted, caught up in circumstance, wanting what we want, when we want it, and of course, we want it *now*.

For all of this we can indeed be thankful, because we can always be assured that He will love us unreservedly, and will do nothing arbitrarily against Himself.

In accomplishing His Goal, Father uses all obstacles and trials to teach us, and to humble us, and ultimately bring us to the place where we see and realize that He is going to be "*All in all*," and that we're powerless creatures, without Him the Creator.

Before "*the disruption of the world*," Father determined what He was going to accomplish, and *how* these things were going to be accomplished, and *when* they were going to be accomplished. His timing is impeccable. Never too early, never too late. He always executes His Plan (*Logos*) to perfection, with the Ultimate Goal in mind, as He brings about the end "product" – the glorious Consummation.

I applied my heart to inquiring and exploring by wisdom concerning all that is done under the Heavens: it is an experience of evil Elohim has given to the sons of humanity to humble them by it (Ecclesiastes 1:13).

The finished product will be the reconciliation of the entire Universe, where every creature, ever born or created, human or celestial, will live in glorious perfection, in utter harmony with all others and with God Himself, and in the process all will bring unimaginable glory to God the Father, and to "*the Son of His love*," as well as to reciprocate the love that God has shown us.

Eventually God will be ALL things to ALL creatures for ALL time. God brought all into the world for this specific reason. He intentionally brought sin and evil into play, and it will last only a relatively short time, in the divine arrangement of things, and when they have served their purpose, God will dismiss them from His Universe.

In designing His Plan, Father determined that the way

The same applies to death, and when it has accomplished its divine goal, it too will be abolished from His Universe (I Corinthians 15:26). At the Consummation, when the last of humanity will be vivified, God's Plan ►

will be complete with the unending increase of Christ Jesus' government.

Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon His kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgement and with justice from henceforth even for the ages. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this (Isaiah 9:7). **BSN**

TOPICS:

Major: Evil; God; Sin; Sovereignty
Minor: Consummation

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BSC 1-7-6 (continued from page 9007)

the present our feeble minds cannot completely comprehend it. One day we will know and fully participate in God's vast Plan. We will then know “the rest of the story.”

Lo! New am I making all! (Revelation 21:5, CV).

BSN

TOPICS:

Major: God; Sovereignty
Minor: Free Will; Logos

IF GOD WERE

PROUD, HE WOULD

HARDLY HAVE US ON

SUCH TERMS; BUT HE IS

NOT PROUD: HE STOOPS TO

CONQUER, HE WILL HAVE US

EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE SHOWN

THAT WE PREFER EVERYTHING

ELSE TO HIM, AND COME TO HIM

BECAUSE THERE IS “NOTHING

BETTER” NOW TO BE HAD.

C. S. Lewis (1898-1963)



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