

have done. He chose to make thinking beings. He did not desire men who would do His will because He pressed them, but to lead them to go this way or that, love Him because He pressed the love button. He ~~preferred,~~ desired to ~~make~~ make thinking beings with feeling and will. He chose to make spirits like His own everlasting with powers of choice. Spirits that would love Him not simply because He forced them to do so, or because they were programmed in that direction but because they desired ~~to~~ to love Him and to serve Him. This is only a small part of the total of God's plan. We do not know == There are many aspects of it that we do not know. The Bible has revealed a considerable part of it to us, but actualy it is only enough to allow us to see those parts that are most vital for our lives and to glimpse something a little bit of the rest of His plan. Theologians and philosophers ~~like~~ like to conjecture as to the fate of the universe and what it all means. Theologians like to take two or three verses and build ~~a~~ ~~exalted~~ theories upon them. Actually the principal details of God's plan, even of His plan for ~~us~~ for our spirits in most of the long stretch of eternity ahead is ~~either~~ ~~is~~ barely touched <sup>on</sup> upon, if touched <sup>on</sup> upon at all, in the Scripture. We know we have a loving God, a wonderful father, a suprem~~e~~ being who controls all things <sup>through</sup> but ~~many~~ aspects of His plan <sup>that</sup> He has not chosen to reveal to us.

Introducing a phase of an aspect of this matter, let me read to you from the Gospel of Matt. Words of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded in Mat. 11:21-24. "Woe unto thee Chorazin, woe unto thee Bethsaida, for if the mighty works that had been done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes." Tyre and Sidon were great and powerful heathen ~~x~~ cities - cities which did not have the knowledge of the true God. Chorazin and Bethsaida were towns in which the Word of God has been proclaimed for decades perhaps centuries and in which godly people met in synagogues to ~~worship~~ Sabbath after Sabbath to worship the Creator.