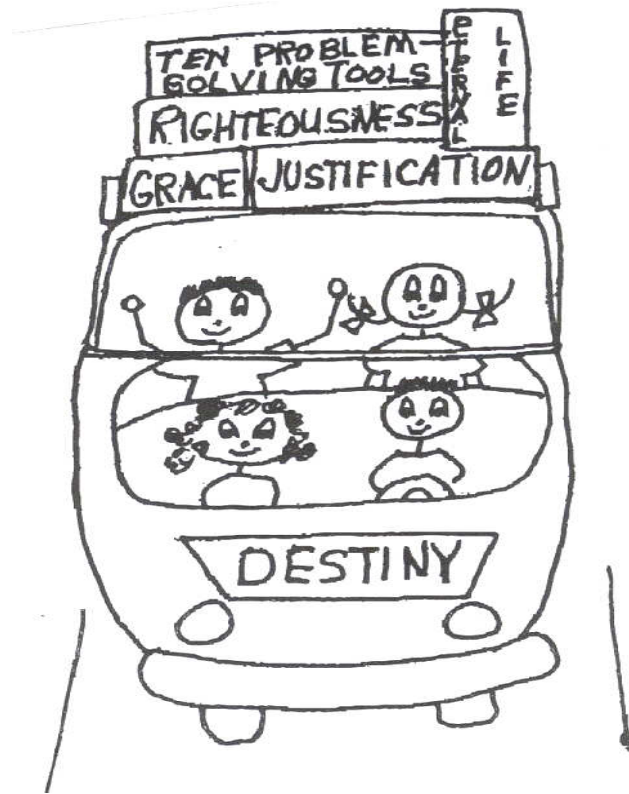
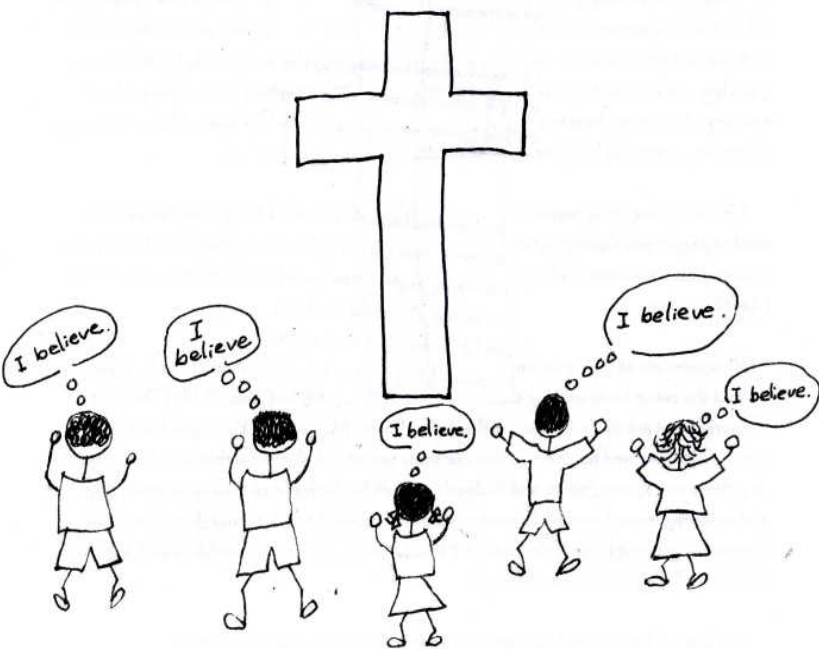


God Decreed It To Happen

Part 7

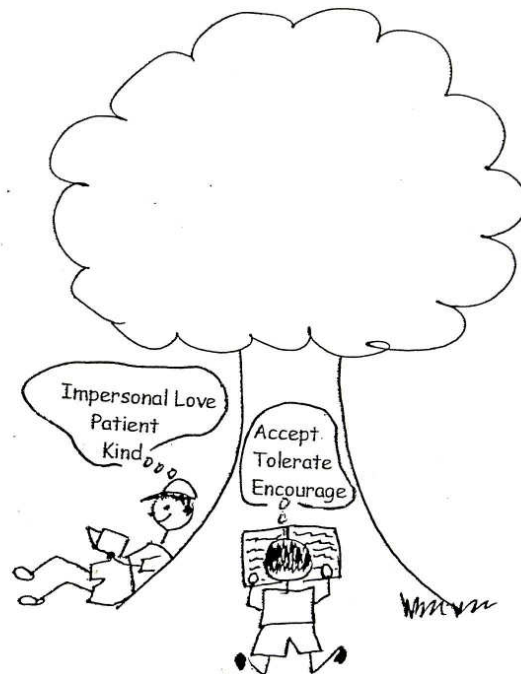
The Practical Application of the Divine Decrees





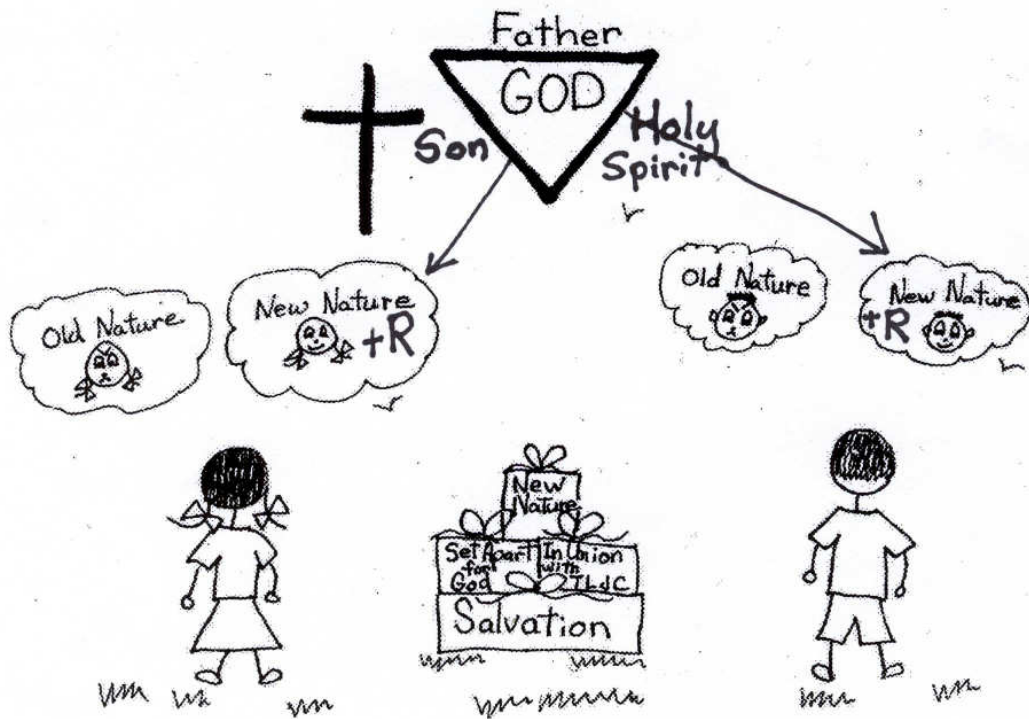
The decree of God is all of God's plan and purpose in eternity past. That is a l-o-n-g time ago. Just think. God had control of everything billions of years ago, He still does, and He always will! All of His plan and purpose centers around the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ, and His work of salvation on the cross. God, in His sovereignty, has commanded

us to believe in His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, and to use impersonal love for all. In the decree, the sovereignty of God and the free will of man work together. We have free will to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and to use impersonal love. It is up to us to apply God's plan and purpose to our lives!



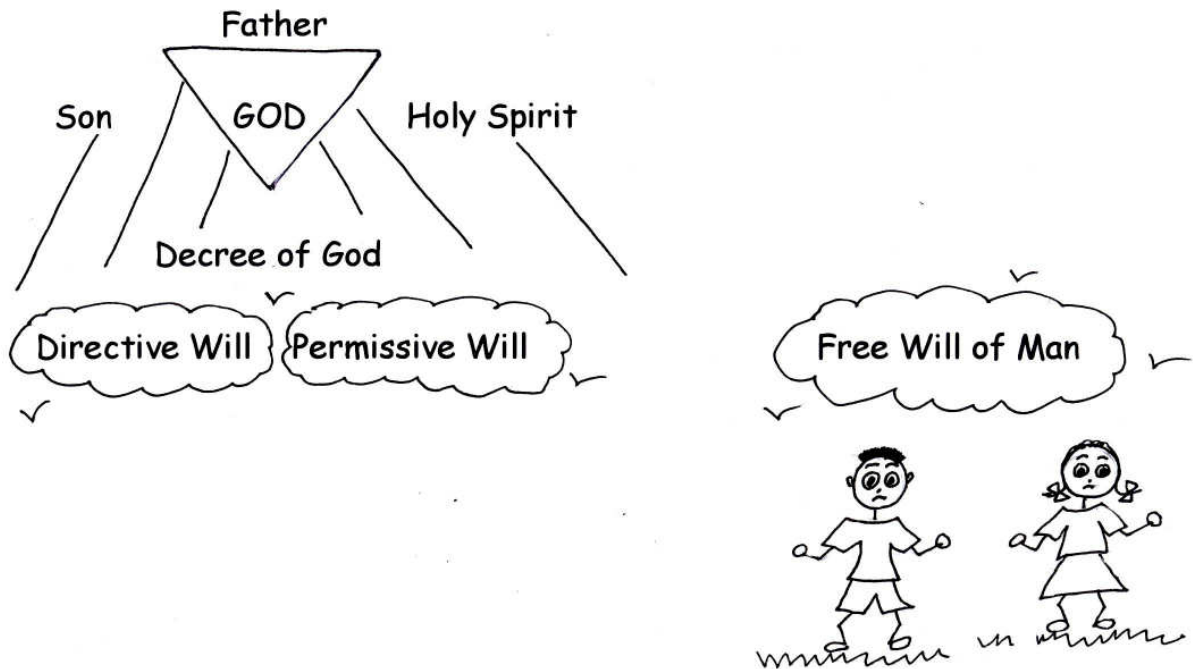
1 John 3:23 This is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love [impersonal love] one another, just as He commanded us.

The work on the Cross is the most magnificent thing that God did for us! It is the most awesome gift that we could ever receive! Think about it; because of the Cross, everyone who wants to can go to heaven! The person just has to believe in Jesus Christ as his Savior. The sovereignty of God and the free volition of man meet. They meet for the glory of God and the advantage of mankind! When we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, the justice of God gives us His righteousness, +R. Think about that! We have God's goodness! We have His +R because of His grace; salvation was accomplished by God and we get the benefits! God did all of the work. It has nothing to do with our human merit or ability. God gets all of the credit! It boggles the mind to think about the fantastic gift of salvation and what a wonderful future believers have in eternity!



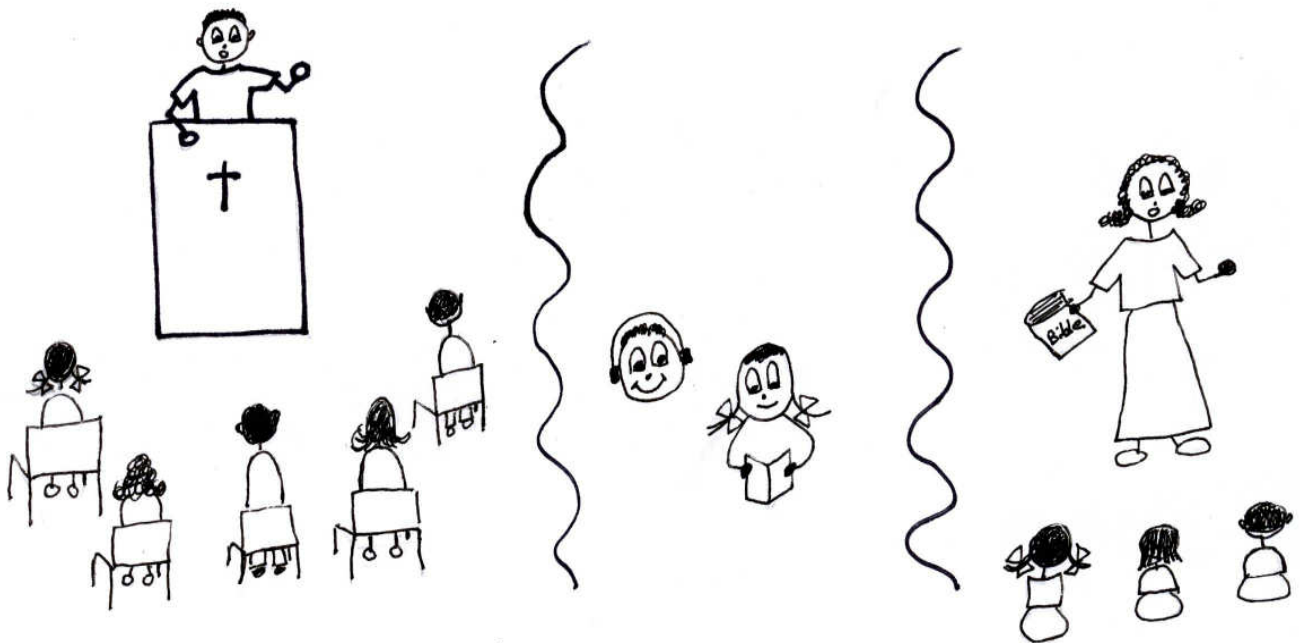
Ephesians 1:4-6 just as He chose us in Him [Jesus Christ] before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us [believers] to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

God's plan in eternity past, l-o-n-g ago, was designed to include **all** events and actions. This means two categories of events and actions, those God wants to happen and those He permits to happen. It included the causes and conditions of these events and actions. It was designed as an indivisible system which means no part could be separated from the whole plan. Every part was taken into consideration to make up the whole plan. It is difficult for us, if not impossible, to plan a week so that all of the parts will work out according to our purpose. Well, God planned entire lifetimes for mankind and angels, with **everything** working together for His purpose, for His glory. Some things God causes, other things He permits. Some things please Him, other things don't. But God always recognizes reality. He knew what our choices would be, and that is what He has decreed!



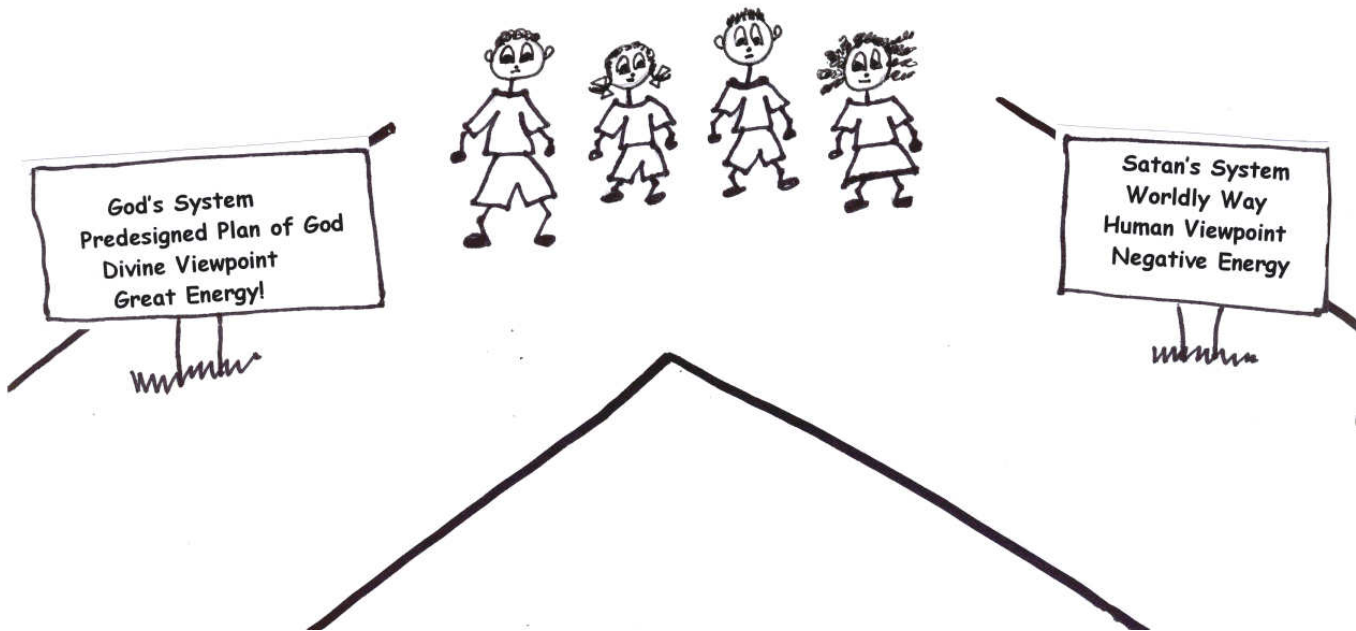
Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

We can be part of a magnificent, perfect plan designed to give us everything that is wonderful in time and eternity! We are free to choose to live in the plan or not. God does not limit or force our wills. He graciously provides guidance, showing us the way to use our volition so it goes along with His divine viewpoint. This guidance is found in the Bible. Therefore, we need to learn Bible doctrine daily! When we believe it and apply it to our lives, we will be living in the best plan. God created it in His wisdom and gives us the power, the power of the Holy Spirit, to live in His predesigned plan! What a God we have!



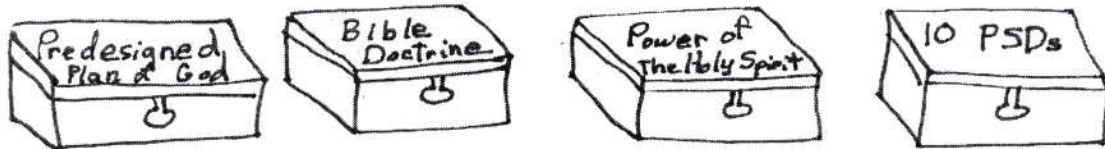
Acts 15:18 Known unto God are all His works from the beginning of the world.

When we live in this awesome plan, Satan will attack us from all sides. This is spiritual warfare! First he tries to attack us personally. He wants us to be hard on ourselves and feel guilty. Then he tries to cause trouble and division in the body of Christ. Remember, all believers are in the body of Christ. Christ is the head, and we are the body. The division usually results in weak believers believing lies and spreading these lies. This does just what Satan wants, stops the progress in the church that has correct Bible doctrine being taught. That is when trouble starts! Human emotions get in the way of thinking with divine viewpoint, God's way of thinking. Wisdom is working only part time! Is that very smart? NO!! Let's rely on God's Word to help us in our spiritual battle!



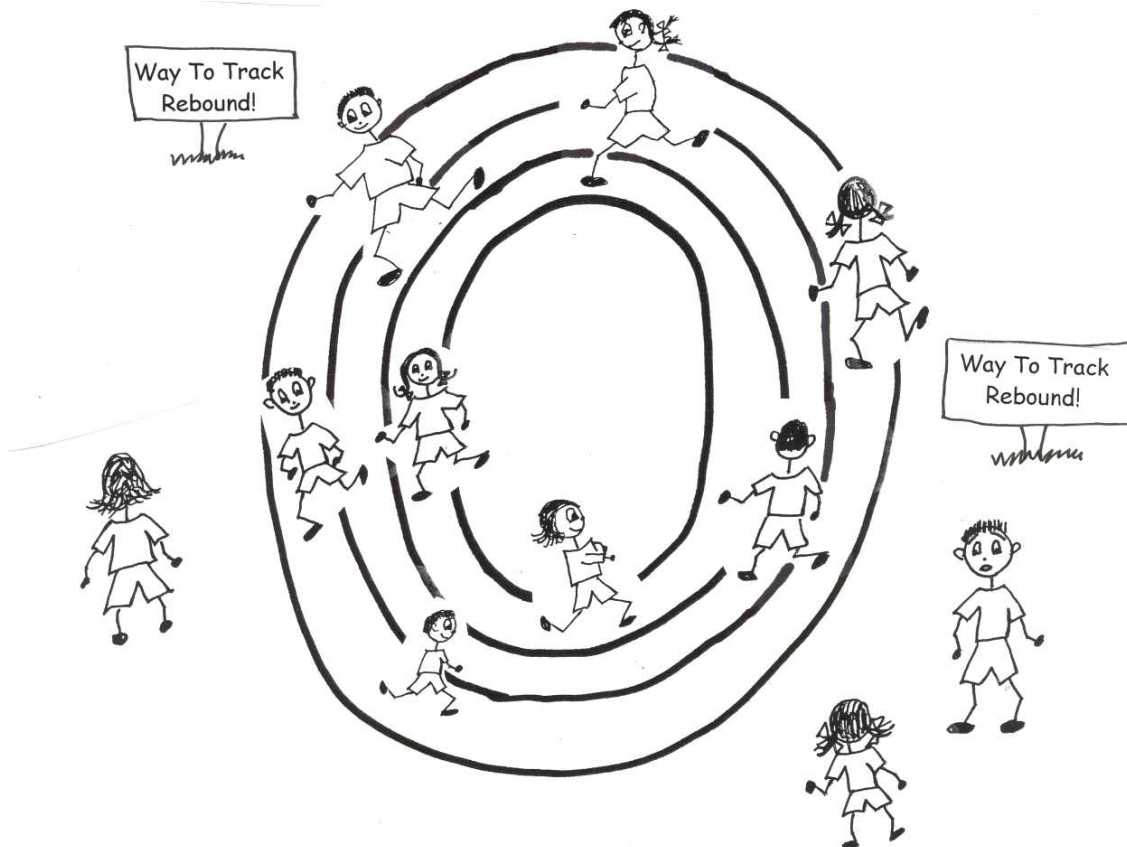
Ephesians 6:11 Hold your ground against the strategies of the devil.
Ephesians 6:13 Hold your ground in the day that evil attacks you.

In any war, there must be a plan and method designed to defeat the enemy. In the angelic conflict, God personally designed the plan for us, His predesigned plan. And He has a method for us, to use His Divine omnipotence. What a plan and what power! God also gave us Bible doctrine and the ten problem-solving devices. Never has so much been given to fight the spiritual battle as in the Church-age. All warfare involves deception, and that includes our spiritual battle. Satan tries to deceive us all the time. He is the father of lies! With God's plan, His power, Bible doctrine, and the ten problem-solving devices we can fight off the attacks of our spiritual enemies. "The battle is the Lord's!"



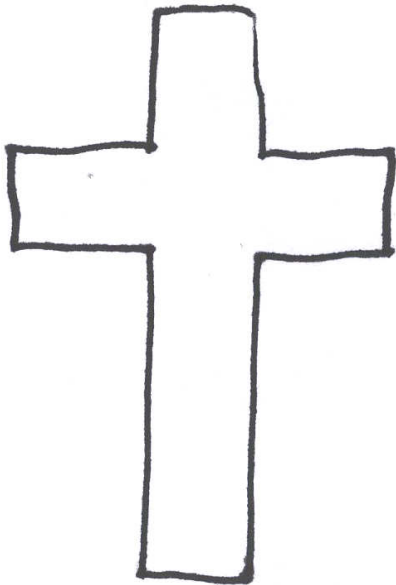
1 Peter 5:9 But resist the devil by being firm in your doctrine.

In this spiritual warfare, we get out of God's plan when we sin. God has given us the way to get right back in the plan: rebound, privately tell God the Father our sins. That fills us with the Holy Spirit and puts us back on the right track! We will be out of the cosmic system and free of human viewpoint. We will be in God's system and using divine viewpoint. Satan doesn't like this. He tries to confuse us about using rebound. He spreads the lie that it is not necessary. He doesn't want us to get back into God's plan and be thinking with divine viewpoint. Satan doesn't want us to rebound!



1 John 1:9 If we acknowledge [name and cite] our sins, He is faithful and righteous, with the result that He forgives us our sins [known sins] and purifies us from all unrighteousness [unknown sins].

Our Lord Jesus Christ already won the strategic victory over Satan in the angelic conflict. Yea! He showed us the plan to use. All through His life, Jesus Christ showed us how to live in the predesigned plan of God and use the power of the Holy Spirit. He showed us how to battle in spiritual warfare against the cosmic system. This strategy or plan led to and included Jesus Christ's saving work on the cross. We have to learn Bible doctrine so that we can have the same thinking Jesus used in the angelic conflict. Our main reason for being in this spiritual war is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, to see His greatness shine! God will work everything together for good for those who love Him!



Romans 11:36 For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

Activity Page

Word Scramble

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loyH _ _ _ _ _
Stprii _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
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The Believer's Front Line for Spiritual Battle

Rebound, Filling of the Holy Spirit, Faith-Rest Drill, Grace Orientation, Doctrinal Orientation, Personal Sense of Destiny, Personal Love for God the Father, Impersonal Love for All Mankind, Sharing the Happiness of God, Occupation with Christ



God Decreed It To Happen
Part 7

The Practical Application of the Divine Decrees

References: Robert McLaughlin Bible Ministries

www.gbible.org

Lesson: 9-20-07

Tree of Life: 9-23-07