

Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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God: Architect and Framer

Jerry Fite

Abraham is brought to our attention in Hebrews 11 as an example of one living by faith. *“By faith he became a sojourner in the land of promise, as in a land not his own, dwelling in tents, with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: for he looked for the city which hath the foundations, whose builder and maker is God” (Hebrews 11:9-10).*

The contrast is made between the transitory sojourning in tents with an abiding city with foundations. The land to which he traveled, some 400 miles away, was not his own, and in this land he sojourned in tents which have no permanent foundations. He obeyed God and began his sojourning while looking for a future abode or city with permanent foundations fashioned and constructed by the same almighty and faithful God who called him. We with Abraham should be *“seeking after the city which is to come” (Hebrews 13:14)*. This city is Heaven.

Two words describe the activity of God in preparing for us this permanent city: *“builder”* and *“maker.”* The word, *“builder”* is from the Greek word, *“TECHNITES.”* It denotes one who does things by *“art,”* therefore a craftsman (*Acts 19:24, 38*),

or as some versions translate the word: *“architect.”* The word *“maker”* is from the Greek word, *“DEMIOURGOS,”* and denotes *“one who works for the people,”* or the one who does the actual work.

God is therefore both the architect and actual framer of the city that is to come. Being of God, our heavenly abode is *“not made with hands” (2 Corinthians 5:1)*. It is eternal, having permanent foundations crafted after the wisdom and power of God.

The heavens and earth have the same architect and maker. *“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1)*. Jeremiah exalts God in His creative work declaring, *“He hath made the earth by His power, He hath established the world by His wisdom, and by His understanding hath He stretched out the heavens” (Jeremiah 51:15)*. By God’s power, the earth came into existence manifesting the blueprint produced by God’s wisdom and understanding. God as the architect used the Word – Jesus Christ as the instrument to carry out His plan. Speaking of Jesus as the eternal Word, John claims, *“All things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that hath been made (John*

1:3). Psalms 33:6 reveals, *“By the word of Jehovah were the heavens made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.”* Jesus Christ is the eternal word or God who carried out the Father’s plan.

Learning more of DNA and understanding that it contains *“information”* in each cell, some scientists are suggesting the implication of *“intelligent design.”* For example, Stephen C. Meyer makes this comparison: *“Just as the inscriptions on the Rosetta Stone point to the activity of an ancient scribe and the software in a computer program points to a programmer, I’ve argued that the digital code discovered with the DNA molecule suggests the activity of a designing mind in the origin of life.” (Return of the GOD Hypothesis, p. 6)*. We breathe the oxygen that plants give out, and plants use the exhaled carbon dioxide that we cannot use. Such indicates a planner or architect behind this functional exchange.

Believers in God see design in nature and say this *“necessarily implies”* that a designer exists. The Hebrew writer reminds us that such truth is not just implied, but specifically claimed in Scripture. God is both the architect or builder and maker of not only this world but the one to come.