The Church in God’s Eternal Purpose
Eph. 3:8-11

Introduction:
A. Members of the church are beneficiaries of God’s eternal purpose (vv. 10, 11).
   1. Purpose a mystery in past ages (v. 9)
   2. Purpose now made known by the church (v. 10).
B. With church in place, we can now see God’s purpose unfolding in the Scriptures.

Discussion:
I. We See it in Certain Promises of the Scriptures.
   A. The seed promises.
      1. The seed of the woman (Gen. 3:15).
      2. The seed of Abraham (Gen. 22:18)
      3. The seed of Isaac (Gen. 26:4)
      4. The seed of Jacob (Gen. 28:14).
      5. The seed is Christ (Gal. 3:16)
   B. The Lord’s promises (Matt. 16:18, 19; Mk. 9:1).

II. We See it in Certain Prophecies of the Scriptures.
   B. Isaiah and Micah (Isa. 2:1-4; Mic. 4:1-4).
   C. Daniel (Daniel 2:44).

III. We See it in Certain Providence of the Scriptures.
   A. Preserving man through Noah (Gen. 6).
   B. Development of chosen nation to bring Christ and church.
   C. Preservation of chosen nation until Christ and church.
      1. Preserving it through Joseph.
      2. Preserving it through Esther.
      3. Preserving a remnant out of Babylon.

IV. We See it in Certain Prototypes of the Scriptures.
   A. Melchizedek a type of the priesthood and rule of Christ. (Gen. 14)
   B. Blood sacrifices a type of the blood of Christ.
   C. Tabernacle/temple a type of the church.

Conclusion:
A. God’s eternal purpose is not longer a mystery — now see what God was up to.
B. We can become conformed to God’s eternal purpose by becoming members of his church.