

## **“His Story” in Seven Words**

**Intro:** History means many things to many people. Some consider an understanding of history vitally important, essential for our self-understanding. Historian David McCullough said, *“History is who we are and why we are the way we are.”* On the other hand Henry Ford is remembered with an entirely different point of view: *“I don’t know much about history and I wouldn’t give a nickel for all the history in the world. It means nothing to me. History is more or less bunk. It’s tradition. We don’t want tradition. We want to live in the present and the only history worth a tinker’s damn is the history we make today.”*

From the earthly viewpoint history is the story of developing kingdoms and countries. It is often the story of war, conflict, and conquest; and maybe that is why people have such divergent views of it. But none of these perspectives takes into consideration the heavenly point of view.

What if we take a God-centered approach to history? History becomes “His Story.” And the Bible gives us the key features of what is an amazing story. It is sometime called “the greatest story ever told.” In a word it is the story of Jesus from beginning until the end. He is the central figure of all human history. But it may be helpful to see how the story develops throughout the Scripture. Today we consider how the whole history of our world could be described in seven words. It is the story of...

### **His creation**

*No scientific theory can adequately explain the origin of the universe or our unique place in it. But we can find the answer in His story.*

*“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”* (Genesis 1:1)

*“By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.”* (Hebrews 11:3)

And it may be surprising to some to see the role that the Son of God who was born on earth as Jesus had in bringing that creation into existence.

*“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.”* (John 1:1–3)

*Our lives have meaning and purpose because we are a part of His story, because we are “His creation.”*

*“THE earth is the LORD’S, and all it contains, The world, and those who dwell in it.”* (Psalm 24:1)

As God’s creation, we were made for a relationship with Him; but sin entered His perfect creation and as a result God began a plan to

redeem sinful mankind. That plan would be accomplished through a man of...

### **His choice**

***“His story” is the story of a man and a nation through whom He chose to bring a Savior into the world.***

***After the creation and the fall, the opening chapters of Genesis take a broad view of the ancient world; but there is one theme that comes through powerfully. The fall of first human pair did not change the behavior of the rest of the human beings God had created. Paul says it simply:***

***“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—for until the Law sin was in the world; but sin is not imputed when there is no law.”***

***(Romans 5:12–13)***

***The book of Genesis documents Paul’s statement by showing that even after their fall and separation from God, the human family became so wicked that God regretted having created mankind. As a result He purposed to destroy the entire world, preserving only the family of righteous Noah through which to repopulate the world.***

***Did humans learn anything from this worldwide catastrophe? Not much! The remaining chapters of this section of Genesis make it clear that even after a universal destruction, human beings continued their rebellion against God, culminating in the arrogant attempt to build a tower to heaven. It was clear that humans were not self-redeeming!***

***Consequently God began to reveal to a man of His choice, Abraham, His plan of redemption. He appeared to him in Mesopotamia and revealed to him His promises to make of him a great nation and through them to bring a redeemer into the world.***

***“NOW the LORD said to Abram, “Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father’s house, To the land which I will show you; And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”” (Genesis 12:1–3)***

***In addition He promised to give them the land of Canaan after a period of enslavement in a foreign land. And so in keeping with His promise Abraham’s descendants, the children of Israel, became slaves in Egypt, but were delivered mightily by the Lord through Moses and brought to Mt. Sinai. As result we see another important step in “His story.” “His story” is the story of...***

### **His covenant**

***Having saved Abraham’s descendants from slavery, God entered into a special covenant with them at Mt. Sinai, the Law of Moses. He had specific things in mind by giving His covenant.***

***He used the precepts of that covenant to give people the knowledge of sin and to show them their need for a Savior.***

*“Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, that every mouth may be closed, and all the world may become accountable to God; because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.” (Romans 3:19–20)*

***He wanted to establish and preserve a people through whom to bring the promised redeemer into the world.***

*“For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.” (Romans 10:4)*

***And so the Law continued to do its work until the Savior came. “His story” is the story of His coming to earth.***

### **His coming**

***Though the Law had been given to Israel to preserve them as a nation, the people of Israel, led by poor kings, were eventually led into captivity. But through it all, God promised to preserve a remnant of people through which to fulfill His promise of a Savior, and the prophets spoke of a king to come who would lead God’s people in righteousness and establish His kingdom over the earth.***

***Thus the NT begins with the fulfillment of these promises in the birth of the Christ.***

*“And the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which shall be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:10–11)*

***He would demonstrate that these claims were true by the many miracles that He performed and by His fulfillment of the prophecies of OT. But even so, He was rejected by His own people. The religious leaders could not accept his differing viewpoints on their traditions nor His rebuke of their hypocrisy. And in their rejection they crucified Him.***

*“He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.” (John 1:10–11)*

***As a result, “His story” is the story of...***

### **His cross**

***God had foreknown that His Son would be rejected by His people and would be put to death.***

*“this Man, delivered up by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.” (Acts 2:23)*

***But the cross was not without meaning. Through it God provided a sacrifice for sin that would result in the spiritual redemption of not only the Jewish people but of all mankind. God’s promise to the man of His choice***

*(Abraham) to bless the nations found its fulfillment in His covenant, His coming, and His cross. As a result Paul taught:*

*“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace,” (Ephesians 1:7)*

***On the third day Jesus was raised from the dead; and before His resurrection He had chose those who would be witnesses of His resurrection and take the good news of the gospel to the whole world. The result would bring about another chapter in “His story.” It would result in the establishment of...***

### **His church**

***During His ministry Jesus promised to build His church and assured its everlasting victory over death itself.***

*“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it.” (Matthew 16:18)*

***He accomplished this through his sacrifice on the cross and through the proclamation of the good news of salvation by His apostles. Through people’s faith in the gospel God would establish a people throughout the earth over whom Christ would rule as a kingdom or over whom He would be head as a body.***

*“And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fulness of Him who fills all in all.” (Ephesians 1:22–23)*

***That church continues to exist to spread the good news of the gospel, proclaiming His death in worship and living out His teaching in their personal lives.***

*“But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God’s OWN POSSESSION, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.” (1 Peter 2:9–10)*  
***Christ’s reign will continue and the church’s mission to proclaim Him will continue until the final chapter of God’s plan is accomplished. His story is the story of...***

### **His completion**

***Upon His ascension to heaven two angels of the Lord promised that he would come again.***

*“and they also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.”” (Acts 1:11)*

***And so His church looks forward to that day when He will come again for His people and deliver the kingdom to the Father.***

*“But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ’s at His coming ,then comes the end, when He delivers up the kingdom*

*to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power.” (1 Corinthians 15:23–24)*

***And what wonderful things are in store when He comes again.***

He will judge the world in righteousness.

*“But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. “And all the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats;” (Matthew 25:31–32)*

The wicked will be judged and sent away into the eternal fires of Gehenna.

*“Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;” (Matthew 25:41)*

The righteous will be invited to enter the eternal kingdom of God.

*“Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” (Matthew 25:34)*

They will enjoy all the blessings of the New Jerusalem forever.

***All that had been lost in the original fall of man will be restored.***

**Conclusion: What a story this is—not mere myth but the true history of the creation. It is the Scriptures in a nutshell, in seven words! His creation, His choice, His covenant, His coming, His cross, His church, His completion!**

**It is His story! But each of us has a part in the story.**

We are “His creation;” you were made for relationship with Him.

We are included in the promise to the man of “His choice.”

We are able to know our sin through the teaching of “His covenant.”

We can know the one who can save us in “His coming.”

We can be forgiven of all our sins through “His cross.”

We can become a member of “His church.”

We can enter the heavenly city at “His completion” of the plan of God.

**What is your response to His Story? We write our own ending.**