

Acts 15:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.

Analysis

God's works have been 'known unto God from the beginning of the world' (Greek 'ap' aiōnos' - from eternity). This affirms God's exhaustive foreknowledge and sovereign plan. Gentile inclusion wasn't an afterthought or plan B - it was God's eternal purpose. This settles the theological question: what God eternally purposed cannot be wrong.

Historical Context

This appeal to God's eternal decree reflects Jewish theological understanding that God's counsel is immutable. If God predetermined Gentile inclusion, no human tradition can override it.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does God's eternal plan comfort you in uncertain times?
2. What does divine foreknowledge teach about the certainty of God's promises?
3. How should God's sovereignty shape our evangelistic efforts?

Interlinear Text

γνωστὰ	ἀπ'	αἰώνος	ἐστίν	τῷ	Θεῷ	πάντα
Known	from	the beginning of the world	are	G3588	unto God	all
G1110	G575	G165	G2076	G2316	G3956	
τὰ	ἔργα	αὐτοῦ				
G3588	works	G846				
		G2041				

Additional Cross-References

Ephesians 3:9 (References God): And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

Ephesians 1:4 (Parallel theme): According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

1 Peter 1:20 (Parallel theme): Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

Ephesians 1:11 (Parallel theme): In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

Acts 17:26 (Parallel theme): And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;

Numbers 23:19 (References God): God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

Matthew 13:35 (Parallel theme): That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.

