

On which one can see the processes ...

A sermon outline by Friedrich Schleiermacher, delivered on 2nd Sunday of Christmas, 1795.
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Source: Johannes Bauer, hg.v., *Ungedruckte Predigten Schleiermachers aus den Jahren 1820-1828: Mit Einleitungen und mit einem Anhang ungedruckter Briefe von Schleiermacher und Henriette Herz* (Leipzig: N.Heinsius Nachfolger, 1909), 85.
From the transcript of an unknown person.

Galatians 4:4

But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law.

Introduction: Men often do not perceive those events which God expressly brings about for the best interest of mankind.

Theme: On which one can see the events that God intends to use for the particular purposes.

I. The time must be fulfilled.

1. Drawing on examples:
 - a) There should be a way of thinking [Denkungsart] that enables us to understand the Good.
 - b) Circumstances, which have secured its propagation and betterment.
2. Universal application:
 - a) to religiousness
 - b) to civil issues

II. Everything happens according to the course of nature.

1. Drawing on examples:
 - a) the birth of Christ,
 - b) the genesis of the Church.
2. Universal application: all good things, which people enjoy, have been revealed to them
 - a) through a coming together of favourable circumstances.
 - b) through explicit inquiry directed to that matter.

Warning

III. Everything remains subject to the Law.

1. Drawing on examples:
 - a) Christ
 - b) all the great benefactors of humanity (Reformation).
2. Application to the future.

Conclusion:

1. The agreement of these examples with experience is a new proof that the sending of Christ was a work of God.
2. In the same way that God goes to work universally, so he also does for the individual. Hence also he can secure for us the enjoyment of blessings in no other way.