Okay, I was trying to figure out a way to create a visual that would describe God's eternal plan (I know, it seems futile for the finite to attempt such a thing!) and here is what I came up with:

Imagine God sitting before a large drafting table (I know, I know... all analogies break down!).

He's got this huge blueprint that He's drawing up... it covers the whole table; it represents the universe. In the middle there is a small area that deals with the earth. Anyway, there are trillions and trillions of details on this plan. Feel free to add your own numeric... a trillion is about as far as I go... at least until congress ups the ante.

Each of us are represented on the plan (He knew us from before the foundation of the world!).

He picks up this large blueprint... now is where you will need to really use your imagination (didn't Hombre mention "vain imaginations" somewhere?) He holds up this blueprint and stretches it out from the back in a 3d sort of way... in other words He turns this flat two-dimensional print into a three-dimensional object by tugging on the back side of the paper and stretches it out for the rest of eternity. Each of the 2d details suddenly gets stretched out to its appropriate place in the time-line which continues forever.

Got anything better? <grin>

Blessings,
William