The Plans He Has For You

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11

Have you ever prayed a prayer like "Lead Me Lord" and then been surprised at where God is leading you?



God knows our future and has a good plan for us.

Jeremiah 29:11-14 - NLT

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:11-14 - NLT

- 12 In those days when you pray, I will listen.
- 13 If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me.

Jeremiah 29:11-14 – NLT

- *I will be found by you*, says the Lord. *I will end your captivity and restore your fortunes.*
 - I will gather you out of the nations where I sent you and will bring you home again to your own land.'"



Every Destiny/ation requires a journey to reach there.



Let's consider Moses and the Israelites.

Numbers 20:7-12 – NIV The Lord said to Moses, "Take the staff, and you and 8 your brother Aaron gather the assembly together. Speak to that rock before their eyes and it will pour out its water.

You will bring water out of the rock for the community so they and their livestock can drink."

9 So Moses took the staff from the Lord's presence, just as he commanded him.

10 He and Aaron gathered the assembly together in front of the rock and Moses said to them, "Listen, you rebels, must we bring you water out of this rock?"

11 Then Moses raised his arm and struck the rock twice with his staff

> Water gushed out, and the community and their livestock drank. But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron,

"Because you did not trust in 12 me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them."

Philippians 2:14 NLT "Do everything without complaining and arguing."

Stop murmuring, but instead speak words of life and encouragement into your life, your situation, and to others.

Colossians 3:15-17 – NLT

- 15 And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts.
 - For as members of one body you are called to live in peace.
 - And always be thankful.

Colossians 3:15-17 – NLT

16 Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives.

Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts.

Colossians 3:15-17 – NLT

17 And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father."



Let us consider the righteous man Job.

Job 1:21-22 NIV "Job said: 'Naked I came from my mother's 21 womb, and naked I shall depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised.'

Job 1:21-22 NIV

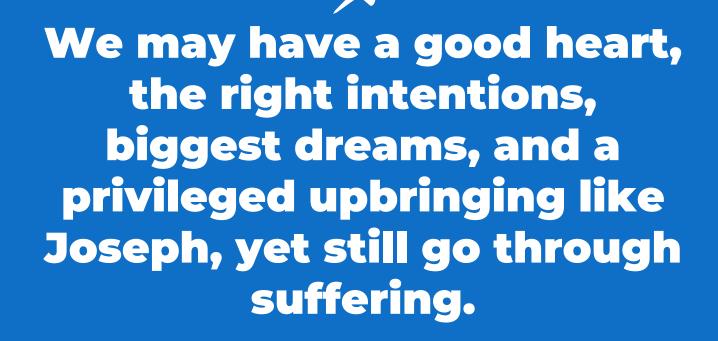
22 In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing."



Consider Joseph the Dreamer.

Genesis 37:3-4

3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him.
4 When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.





God may take you through periods where you have success for a time and then allow situations to test you.



God wants to ensure in the time of your greatest success as well as loss that your trust is wholly dependent upon him and not upon yourself.

Why does God seemingly lead us into suffering?

It isn't into, but through ...

In the Lord's Prayer Jesus taught us to pray

Matthew 6:13 NKJV "And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."

God will lead us through the dark valleys

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- *He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.*

3 He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

- 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
 - I will fear no evil; For You are with me;

Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

- 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
 - You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord, Forever.

God will provide a way out.

1 Corinthians 10:13 - WE

No testing has come to you that other people do not have. But God will not fail you. He will not allow the testing to be too hard for you.

No. When the testing comes, God will make a way out for you, so that you can go through the testing.



Let us consider Saul the persecutor who became Paul the Apostle to the Gentiles.



Wherever he went, he followed the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 16:6-10 MEV

"They went through the region of **Phrygia and Galatia and were** forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. When they came near Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not allow them

Acts 16:6-10 MEV

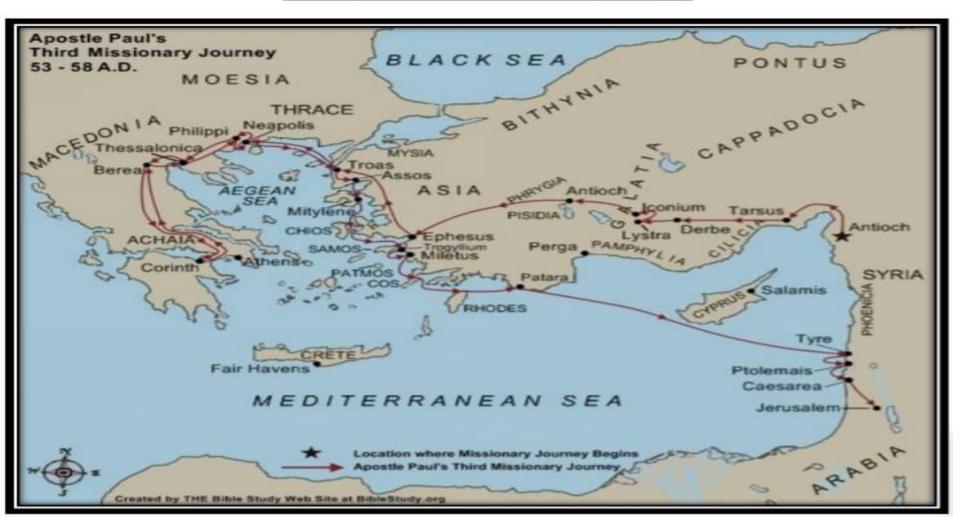
So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. During the night a vision appeared to Paul: A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying,

"Come over to Macedonia and help us"

Acts 16:6-10 MEV

After he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them."

Apostle Paul's Third Missionary Journey





Paul was no stranger to suffering, being unafraid of persecution and death.

Acts 20:22-23

22 "And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there.

23 I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me."

Galatians 5:25 NLT Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives." Other versions put it - Keep in step with the Spirit, or walk in the Spirit.



Let us allow the Spirit to empower us and lead us.

First comes the <u>Commission</u>, then the <u>Transition</u>.

So you can fulfill your <u>Mission.</u>



Jesus himself was baptized, Filled with the Holy Spirit, Commissioned by The Father and then...

Mark 1:10-13

"At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him."



The Father's plan for Jesus was to go through the wilderness and for Him to go to the cross of Calvary, then from the cross to the grave



But that was not the end of Jesus' journey or purpose...

Philippians 2:8 NLT *"He humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross."*



Jesus consistently surrendered to The Father's will.

Matthew 26:39-42 39 He went on a little farther and bowed with his face to the ground, praying, "My Father! If it is possible, *let this cup of suffering be* taken away from me.

Matthew 26:39-42

Yet I want your will to be done, not mine."

40 Then he returned to the disciples and found them asleep. He said to Peter,

Matthew 26:39-42

"Couldn't you watch with me even one hour?

41 Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak!"

Matthew 26:39-42 42 Then Jesus left them a second time and prayed, "My Father! If this cup cannot be taken away unless I drink it, Your will be done."

Mark 15:34 MEV

"And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which means, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?""



We are not Jesus, all knowing, but even He had to pray fervently for strength to go through his biggest test.

Jesus had his eyes fixed on the Prize, the Destination and not the Situation

From the grave Jesus arose, then ascended into heaven to sit at the right-hand of the Father.



Romans 8:34

"Who then will condemn us? No one - for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honour at God's right hand, pleading for us."



We may be close to God, know we are sons and daughters of the Most High and still encounter suffering, unexpected setbacks, or experience tragedy and loss.



After the testing, training, temptation, tribulation, and trials comes the Prize God's blessing and glory.

Romans 8:14-18 NIV

- 14 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.
- 15 The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather,

Romans 8:14-18 NIV the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

Romans 8:14-18 NIV

- 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.
- 17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs - heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ,

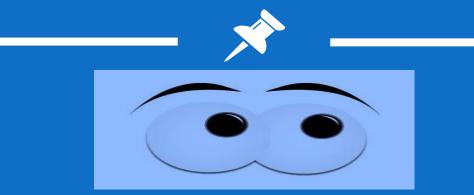
Romans 8:14-18 NIV if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

Jeremiah 29:11 – NLT 11 "For I know the plans I have for you,' 12 says the Lord. 'They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

So let me ask, do you still want to follow the Lord's plans?

Don't ever give up on God's calling and plan for your life, just because you are passing through a stormy sea or through a desert.



Keep your eyes on the Lord.

Hebrews 12:1-2 MEV

"Therefore, since we are encompassed with such a great cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that

Hebrews 12:1-2 MEV

is set before us. Let us look to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."



God's eternal plan is always so much better than our best earthly plan.

Romans 8:28

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Romans 8:28 TPT "So we are convinced that every detail of our lives is continually woven together to fit into God's perfect plan of bringing good into our lives, for we are lovers of God who have been called to fulfill his designed purpose."

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 NIV "For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 NIV "So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

There are troubling times, but don't fear. Draw near to God. Christ's return is near.

Matthew 24:12-14 NIV "Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.

John 16:33 NIV "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. *In this world you will have trouble.* But take heart! I have overcome the world."

1 Peter 1:6-7 MEV

6 In this you greatly rejoice, even though now, if for a little while, you have had to suffer various trials,

1 Peter 1:6-7 MEV

in order that the genuineness of your faith, which is more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tried by fire, may be found to result in praise, glory, and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ,

Jeremiah 29:11 – NLT 11 "For I know the plans I have for you,' 12 says the Lord. 'They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

James 1:2-4 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the 3 testing of your faith produces perseverance.

James 1:2-4 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Matthew 24:12-14 NIV And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come."



Set up a Trust Account with God



God has chosen you to be a man or woman of faith.

Romans 9.16 TPT "... God's choice (of you) doesn't depend on how badly you want it or try to earn it, but it depends on God's kindness and mercy."

Hebrews 11:6 TPT

"...without faith living within us it would be impossible to please God. For we come to God in faith knowing that he is real and that he rewards the faith of those who passionately seek him."

Hebrew 10:23 NIV Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful."

So let me ask you today, are you ready to embark on the most exciting journey of your life, trusting God with the rest of your life and to make Jesus your Lord?

Romans 10.9-13 MEV

"that if you confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved, for with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth

Romans 10.9-13 MEV confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, *"Whoever believes in Him will not be* ashamed." For there is no distinction between *Jew and Greek,*

Romans 10.9-13 MEV

for the same Lord over all is generous toward all who call upon Him.

For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

PRAY:

"Jesus, I come to you in faith. I thank you for the cross. I confess that I am a sinner and that I need you to save me. I repent of my sins and ask you to forgive me.

PRAY: Come into my life. Fill me with the Holy Spirit, I surrender to your will from this day forward. Thank you for restoring me to your original intent for my life.

PRAY:

You are my Saviour, my Healer, my Baptizer of the Holy Spirit, and my Coming King. Amen!"

Jeremiah 29:11 - NLT *"'For I know the plans I have for* you,' says the Lord. 'They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.



Write to us at . . .

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