

## **Jeremiah 29:11-13**

*“What’s the Point?”*

### **I. What’s our purpose?**

A. **Is. 43:7** – We’re created to bring God glory. **How?**

1.) Fulfilling His purpose (will) in your life.

a.) **John 17:4** – *“I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.”* – John 4:34; 5:30; 6:38 = Matt. 16:21-23 – **Peter didn’t like the purpose of God for Jesus b/c it didn’t align with his thoughts & expectations. God’s plan for His Son was to become the sacrifice for the sins of the world through death, so he resisted = what so many of us still do today: when we start to see the difficulty in the plans of God for our life, we argue & resist b/c we’re not mindful of the bigger picture.**

b.) **Ps. 139:16** – *“Your eyes saw my substance being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.”*

i.) **God had a plan for each of us before we were even born! Whether we follow that plan or take that path is up to us – Joshua 24:15.**

### **II. Jer. 29:11-13 – what are God’s thoughts (plans) for me?**

A. Peaceful – not *easy*, but peaceful – Ps. 18:30.

1.) *A common misperception of God’s will for Christians is that things won’t be as difficult as God warns us they will be; or we don’t understand just how difficult the Christian walk truly is – John 16:33; Rom. 8:28; 1 Pet. 1:6-7; 4:12.*

2.) **“Not of evil”** – *we have a tendency to doubt God’s plans when difficulties arise. Big difference b/w “difficult” things and “evil” things. Nothing evil in God’s nature, so we can discern what’s of God & what isn’t – 1 John 4:1.*

a.) *At times God may allow our lives to be impacted by evil or for evil to cross our path, but for His greater purpose & glory – 2 Cor. 4:7-18; 7:5; Rom. 8:35-39; Ps. 73:1-17; Luke 21:13, 19*

b.) *Peace isn’t necessarily the absence of conflict, but peace in the middle of the conflict, which is many times God’s purpose.*

c.) *Peace isn’t necessarily immediate, but many times ultimate. I.E. experienced once we’ve walked through the difficulty; we don’t understand true peace until we’ve experienced true hardship – Is. 48:10; Heb. 12:11.*

B. Purposeful – not random: “to give you a future”

1.) [Ps. 40:4-5; 139:17-18]; Matt. 10:30; Luke 12:22-28

- a.) *If God goes to such great lengths to tell us how often He thinks about us, how intricately designed we are, how valuable we are to Him, how much detail has gone into planning our future, why would He want to destroy that/throw all that away?*
- b.) *If God has a purpose, that purpose will always be brought to fruition if we're willing to submit to it – Is. 55:11; Mark 13:31.*

C. Hopeful – not discouraging (satan's #1 weapon)

1.) Heb. 11:1; Eph. 2:11-13; Ps. 16:7-11; 33:18-22; 42:5; 130:5,7.

- 1.) *When we focus on our circumstances, we lose sight of God's intentions.*
- 2.) *Our circumstances won't always make sense, but God's faithfulness always makes use of our circumstances – Is. 46:9-10.*
  - i.) ***“Hope is treasure in your trial; a joyful expectation about the future. Hope focuses on where you're headed rather than where you are. Hope is confidence in where you're headed is far greater than your current location. Hope means where you're going is better than where you came from. Hope says my tomorrow will outpace my yesterday because hope is always future oriented.” – Tony Evans***
- 3.) ***God's main purpose of your future = a closer relationship with Him– v.12-13 – Me 5x in 2 verses!***
  - i.) Calling upon God a result of desiring to know His plans/will for your life.
  - ii.) When we have a closer relationship with God, we will then act more like God which in turn fulfills His ultimate purpose of our life in bringing Him glory – Is. 43:7.