

What we must realize, what God said to Pharaoh also goes for us, we are purposefully made - Rom 9:17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth."

- You were made for a purpose
- There is purpose in things that happen to Christians
- We must live for the right purpose

First we must realize God is always in charge - Isa 14:24 The **Lord Almighty has sworn**, "Surely, as I have planned, so it will be, and as I have purposed, so it will stand."

God had our "life plan" before we were even a thought - Jer 1:5 "**BEFORE** I formed you in the womb I knew you, **BEFORE** you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

God was involved in every detail when HE created us - Ps 139:13-16 - 13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. 15 My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, 16 your eyes saw my unformed body. **ALL THE DAYS ORDAINED FOR ME WERE WRITTEN IN YOUR BOOK BEFORE ONE OF THEM CAME TO BE.**

God planned exactly when and where we were born - Acts 17:26-28 - 26 From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the **exact places** where they should live. 27 God did this so that men would SEEK HIM and PERHAPS REACH OUT FOR HIM and FIND HIM, though he is not far from each one of us. 28 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

God even made it that situations are not always humanly ideal - Eccl 9:11-12 - 11 I have seen something else under the sun: The race is not to the swift or the battle to the strong, nor does food come to the wise or wealth to the brilliant or favor to the learned; but **time and chance happen to them all.** 12 Moreover, **no man knows when his hour will come**: As fish are caught in a cruel net, or birds are taken in a snare, so men are trapped by evil times that fall unexpectedly upon them.

In reality there are only two purposes one good and one bad, its our choice which we will serve - 2 Tim 2:20-21 - 20 In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. 21 **IF A MAN CLEANSSES HIMSELF FROM THE LATTER**, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.

Most importantly, stop looking for Godly things to do, be Godly in whatever you do!! - 1 Cor 10:31 So whether you eat or drink or **WHATEVER YOU DO**, do it all for the glory of God.

Knowing your God given purpose

All gifts, services, & outcomes are ordained by God and come from God - 1 Cor 12:4-11 - 4 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. 6 There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. 7 Now **TO EACH ONE THE MANIFESTATION OF THE SPIRIT IS GIVEN FOR THE COMMON GOOD.** 8 To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, 10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just AS HE DETERMINES.

We are part of a whole, and we do not get to choose what part are, we are to know what part God made us for - 1 Cor 12:14-25 - 14 Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. 15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, EVERY ONE OF THEM, JUST AS HE WANTED THEM TO BE. 19 If they were all one part, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, but one body. 21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" 22 On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, 24 while our presentable parts need no special treatment. →

➔ But God has **combined the members of the body** and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, 25 so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.

We must stop thinking high of ourselves instead we must start seeing us through God's eyes - Rom 12:3-6 - 3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. 4 Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same **FUNCTION**, 5 so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us.

Then we must realize our life is a series of tasks which we have a purpose and IT IS NEVER ABOUT US!!! - 1 Cor 3:5-9 - 5 What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? **ONLY SERVANTS**, through whom you came to believe — as the Lord has assigned to each his task. 6 I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but GOD MADE IT GROW. 7 So neither he who plants nor he who waters IS ANYTHING, but **ONLY GOD, WHO MAKES THINGS GROW.** 8 The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. 9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.

We must stop getting distracted and start being focused

Make heavenly things your permanent focus - Col 3:2 - 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

The only way to make the right choices is by faith - 2 Thess 1:11-12 - 11 With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may fulfill every good purpose of yours and every act **PROMPTED BY YOUR FAITH.** 12 We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We may not see the benefits now but it will be worth it later - Rom 8:18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

Though situations are not always ideal it's always to a Christians benefit- Rom 8:28- 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.

What we must do to serve our purpose

We have to consciously disconnect from the world and Spiritually renew our minds to know our purpose - Rom 12:2 - 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. THEN you will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Spiritually focus on the right thing NOT the wrong - Col 3:1-4 - Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, **set your hearts on things above**, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. 2 **Set your minds on things above, NOT on earthly things.** 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Reverently live a saved life and allow God to work in you - Phil 2:12-13 - 12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed — not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence — continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 **FOR IT IS GOD WHO WORKS IN YOU TO WILL AND TO ACT ACCORDING TO HIS GOOD PURPOSE.**

Use the Bible as your complete life-guide - Ps 119:133 - 133 Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me.

Do not allow you to stop you - 1 Peter 4:1-2 - Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. 2 **AS A RESULT**, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.

We must accept the position we are in and the circumstances we are in - 1 Cor 7:17-24 - 17 Nevertheless, each one should retain the **place in life** that the **LORD ASSIGNED** to him and to **which God has called him.** This is the rule I lay down in all the churches. 18 Was a man already circumcised when he was called? He should not become uncircumcised. Was a man uncircumcised when he was called? He should not be circumcised. 19 Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing. Keeping God's commands is what counts. 20 Each one should remain in the situation which he was in when God called him. 21 Were you a slave when you were called? Don't let it trouble you — although IF you can gain your freedom, do so. 22 For he who was a slave when he was called by the Lord is the Lord's freedman; similarly, he who was a free man when he was called is Christ's slave. 23 You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men. 24 Brothers, each man, **as responsible to God**, should remain in the situation God called him to.