

## **Having Heavens Vision for Your Life**

In a world that constantly tries to diminish our worth and purpose, it's crucial to remember that God has extraordinary plans for each of us. These aren't random thoughts or afterthoughts - they are carefully designed purposes that He's been thinking about since before we were born.

### **What Does God Think About You?**

The prophet Jeremiah gives us incredible insight into God's heart toward us. In Jeremiah 29:11, God declares: "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Think about this - the Creator of the universe has you on His mind. He's not thinking evil thoughts about you or plotting ways to harm you. His thoughts toward you are thoughts of peace. He wants to bring peace to whatever storms you're facing right now, not someday in the distant future, but today.

### **You Were Planned, Not an Accident**

Unlike human plans that sometimes go awry, God's plan for you was intentional from the beginning. You weren't a surprise to Him. Before you were formed in your mother's womb, He knew you and had a purpose for your life. You are His idea, His design, His masterpiece.

### **Why Do People Lose Hope?**

The Bible tells us that without a vision, people perish or cast off restraint. When people don't see a future for themselves, they make destructive choices. They live only for the moment because they have no hope for tomorrow.

This is why it's so important to understand that God has given you a future and a hope. When you grasp this truth, you can endure present difficulties because you know they're not your final destination.

## **The Pressure Cooker Principle**

Sometimes we find ourselves in pressure situations that feel unbearable. Our natural instinct is to escape as quickly as possible. But just like a pressure cooker creates something better through the process, God can use pressure in our lives to bring about something beautiful.

The key is not to make hasty decisions based on momentary discomfort. Instead, we need to think about the whole plan - how our current situation fits into God's bigger picture for our lives.

## **How Do We Access God's Control in Our Lives?**

God is not in control of everything that happens in the world. He gave mankind authority over this earth, and much of that authority has been given to Satan, who is called "the god of this world." However, God is in absolute sovereign control of those who trust Him completely and submit their lives to His will.

When you take the authority God has given you and submit it back to Him through faith, you put yourself under His divine protection and guidance. This is how His plans for your life come to pass.

## **The Power of Seeking God Wholeheartedly**

God promises that when we seek Him with our whole heart, we will find Him. This isn't about superficial seeking or just turning to God when we have problems. It's about bringing our entire life - past, present, and future - before Him and asking Him to fulfill His complete plan for us.

## **Learning from Paul's Example**

The Apostle Paul faced incredible hardships - persecution, imprisonment, threats on his life. Yet he remained unshaken. His secret was that he never lost sight of his "heavenly vision" - the purpose God had called him to fulfill.

Even years into his ministry, Paul would go back and share his conversion story, keeping that initial encounter with Jesus fresh and real. He understood that everything good in his future was connected to what God had done for him through Jesus Christ.

## **Not Loving Your Life to the Death**

Paul said that chains and tribulations awaited him, but "none of these things move me, nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy." When you have a clear vision of God's purpose for your life, you become unmovable. You know that nothing can stop you from completing what God has called you to do.

## **Overcoming the Accuser**

Revelation 12 tells us that Satan, the accuser of the brethren, has been cast down from heaven but continues to accuse us day and night here on earth. He fills our minds with condemnation and negative expectations about our lives.

But we overcome him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of our testimony. This means regularly remembering and sharing what God has done for us, keeping our salvation story fresh and alive in our hearts.

## **Breaking Free from Negative Expectations**

Many people walk around expecting things to go wrong - "Murphy's Law" thinking. This comes from condemnation, which is simply an expectation of judgment. But there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. We should be expecting good things to happen because we are the righteousness of God in Him.

## **Your Value in God's Eyes**

The world constantly tries to tell us we're insignificant - just evolved creatures with no real purpose. But the cross tells a different story. God wouldn't have sent Jesus to die for something worthless. The fact that He was willing to go to such lengths to save you proves your incredible value in His sight.

You're not just dust in the wind or another brick in the wall. You're a carefully planned, thoroughly thought-through project of God. He's made you in His image and likeness, and He has eternal purposes for your life.

## **Life Application**

This week, make a commitment to reconnect with your heavenly vision. Spend time reflecting on your conversion experience and what God has done for you. Write down your testimony and be ready to share it with others. When challenges arise, instead of expecting the worst, declare that "this will turn out for my good" because you know God has plans for your life.

Ask yourself these questions:

- When was the last time I reflected on my salvation and what Jesus did for me?
- Am I living with expectation of good things or am I constantly expecting problems?
- Do I truly believe that God has specific plans and purposes for my life?
- How can I seek God more wholeheartedly in every area of my life?

Remember, God's thoughts toward you are thoughts of peace, not evil. He has given you a future and a hope. Trust Him with your life and everything that concerns you, knowing that He is perfecting all that relates to His plan for you.

## Quotes

1. "God's thinking thoughts of peace about you and not of evil."
2. "God wants to bring peace to the storms of your life. Whatever is troubling you this morning, God wants to speak peace to it today."
3. "God is not controlling everything that's happening in the world. God gave authority to man, and much of that authority man has handed over to Satan, who is called the god of this world."
4. "God has absolute, sovereign control in the lives of those who take the authority He gave them and willingly submit it back to Him by living in faith."
5. "God planned for your coming. You are part of His plan. You are His idea—you did not just happen."
6. "Why do people destroy their own lives? Why do they give themselves over to foolishness? Because they have no vision for their future."
7. "Without vision, people perish. Another way to say it is, without vision people cast off restraint."
8. "God wants you to have the same expectations for your future that He has. You were created with a supernatural purpose and an awesome plan."
9. "Follow the heavenly vision for your earthly life."
10. "You were created to make an impact in God's kingdom—to affect lives in an eternal way, sometimes with just one word."
11. "When you have vision for your future, you can make it through any storm."
12. "You and I ought to be walking around expecting good things to happen."
13. "There is no condemnation, no expectation of judgment in my life, because of what Jesus did for me."

14. "You can't take my life until I'm finished with my assignment. There were times they came for Jesus, but they couldn't take Him because His hour had not yet come."
15. "When you agree with God's plans and submit your life to Him, you place those plans under His power to bring them to pass."

## **Verses**

1. Jeremiah 29:11
2. Acts 26:14-19
3. Revelation 12:10-11
4. Acts 20:22-24

## **Summary**

God has extraordinary plans for each of us that were designed before we were born. According to Jeremiah 29:11, His thoughts toward us are thoughts of peace, not evil, giving us a future and hope. When we lose sight of God's vision for our lives, we make destructive choices and live without purpose. However, when we seek God wholeheartedly and submit our lives to His will, we access His divine protection and guidance. Like the Apostle Paul, we can remain unshaken through hardships by keeping our heavenly vision fresh and alive. We overcome Satan's accusations by remembering what God has done for us through Jesus Christ and expecting good things because we are His righteousness.