

God Plans To Proper Me

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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 (NIV)

These are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem to the surviving elders of the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.

—Jeremiah 29:1 (ESV)

This is what the Lord says: "When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place. 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 29:10-11 (NIV)

I will be found by you," declares the Lord, "and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you," declares the Lord, "and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile."

—Jeremiah 29:14 (NIV)

1. Our hope is in Jesus, not our circumstances.

For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake,

—Philippians 1:29 (ESV)

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,

—2 Timothy 3:12 (ESV)

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

—John 16:33 (ESV)

When life presses you, press into Jesus.

2. Our hope is not the removal of problems; it is rescue from sin.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

—Isaiah 53:6 (ESV)

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

—1 Peter 2:24 (ESV)

3. Our hope is in a glorious forever.

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

—2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (ESV)

But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”

—Corinthians 2:9 (ESV)

I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no

one will snatch them out of my hand.

—John 10:28 (ESV)

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born
again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus
Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is
imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for
you,*

—1 Peter 1:3-4 (ESV)