

Back to Your Future!

- I. **Each of us has a destiny, something that God has uniquely designed for our future. Even when we make mistakes, fail, or tragedy strikes, God will bring us back to the great future He always has in mind for us.**
 - A. God speaks through Jeremiah to us today, “For I know the plans I have for you...plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future” (Jeremiah 29:11). God spoke this word through the prophet Jeremiah in anticipation of a 70-year exile for disobedience (Jeremiah 29:10).
 - B. A parallel New Testament Scripture is “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). You can always trust God for a great future!

- II. **God can even move the sun and the stars in response to our God-given destiny! The story of King Hezekiah is for everyone who thinks their story is finished and that God can no longer fulfill His good plans for them (II Kings 20:1-11).**
 - A. Hezekiah’s prayer changed God’s mind, and God rearranged the laws of time and nature to communicate to Hezekiah his God-ordained future (II Kings 20:7-11). In the fulfillment of his destiny, Hezekiah had a dramatic role; and so do we.
 - B. God still responds to our prayers and faith in very personal ways. This is part of the joy and mystery of walking with God.

- III. **Can God really cause all things to work together for our good (Romans 8:28)?**
 - A. Consider how God returned Peter back to his future, even after denying the Lord three times. After Jesus resurrected from the dead, He brought Peter back to the great future He always had in mind for him by letting Peter declare his love for Jesus three times, once for every denial (John 21:15-19).
 - B. Does God not also bring us back to His good plans for us (John 10:10)?

- IV. **King David suffered for his sin, but David never lost sight of God’s goodness and destiny for him, even when he failed badly. He was confident God could take him back to his future and his destiny (Psalm 51:1-19).**
 - A. Even when armies besieged him, David was confident in his future (Psalm 27:1-6).
 - B. Notice David’s cries for help and his amazing declaration of faith that he would “see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living” even in times of great distress (Psalm 27:7-14).
 - C. There is a great future for all of us who don’t give up but keep coming back in faith to inherit God-given promises (Romans 8:28-39).