

## TRUSTING GOD.

### JEREMIAH 29:11.

1. Most people interpret our Text with the words, ‘God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life.’

I have heard it explained that way on many occasions. In fact, I have never heard it explained any other way.

2. What is there not to like about such a promise? It sounds great when we like the plan.

But what happens when things are not going our way and the job doesn’t work out?

What about when the test results are not good or the Home Sweet Home is not all that sweet anymore?

3. Most people quote our Text as a great verse of encouragement and it’s true.

It sounds wonderful!

However, they fail to put it in its proper context.

4. In the previous chapter, (Jer. 28) there was a debate between the Prophets Hananiah and Jeremiah.

Hananiah said that the people of Judah would be in Babylonian captivity for only two years.

5. (Jer. 28:1-7, 9-10, 12-13, 15-17)

(Jer. 29:1, 4-10) Then we come to our Text.

God was saying that the people of Judah would spend seventy years in Babylonian captivity.

6. That was not what they wanted to hear. But, in the midst of bad news, there was good news.

It was a Word of Encouragement.

Our Text speaks about TRUSTING GOD.

A. Trusting Him And His Plan.

B. Trusting Him As His People.

C. Trusting Him For His Purpose.

### A. Trusting God And His Plan.

1. In our Text, The Lord says, “For I KNOW the thoughts that I think...” (KJV)

“For I know the plans I have...” (NLT)

This is referring to the Plans that God had already made.

2. Remember, He Is Omniscient. That means, He Knows Everything. He Has All Knowledge.

He Knows the end from the beginning. There is nothing that He doesn’t know.

3. However, His Plans are on His Timetable.

Gal. 4:4-5 says, “But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law.”

“To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.”

4. Eph. 1:4 says, “According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love.”

Remember we, as the Redeemed of the Lord, are the Creation of God.

5. Eph. 2:10 says, “For we are His Workmanship, Created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”

So we are to discover His Plan and not try to invent one of our own.

6. Prov 3:5-6 says, “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”

“In all thy ways Acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.”

7. Therefore, we must reject our agenda and become obedient to His Agenda.

It is only natural for us to want to follow our plan and agenda. However, God’s Way and His Plan is always the best one.

8. Jesus set the example during His Earthly Ministry.

In John 5:19-20 He said, “...Verily, verily, I say unto you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He seeth the Father do: for what things soever He doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.”

“For the Father loveth the Son, and showeth Him all things that Himself doeth: and He will show Him greater works than these, that ye may marvel.”

9. In John 5:30 Jesus said, “I can of Mine Own Self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and My Judgment is Just; because I seek not Mine Own Will, but the Will of the Father which hath sent Me.”

The Earthly Ministry of Jesus was totally dependent upon the leading of the Heavenly Father.

So We Must Trust God And His Plan.

## **B. Trusting God As His People.**

1. In our Text, The Lord says, “For I Know the thoughts that I think TOWARD YOU...” (KJV)

“For I know the plans I have FOR YOU...”

(NLT) The Prophet reminded them that the Love of God for His People never changes.

2. Jer. 31:3 says, “The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an

everlasting love.”

Rom. 8:38-39 says, “For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,”

“Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the Love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

3. God had not forsaken His People. They were being disciplined by Him because they were His People.

His Plans for them was specific. They had reason to rejoice even though their present situation was not good.

4. There are times when God allows us to be subjected to negative circumstances because it will produce positive results in our lives.

There are two great truths we must never forget:

A. God is with us.

B. God is for us.

5. His Promise to His People is that “...I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.” (Heb 13:5c)

So We Must Trust God As His People.

## **C. Trusting God For His Purpose.**

1. (Jer. 29:11 KJV) (NLT)

“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a FUTURE and a HOPE.”

The Purpose of God never changes.

2. Isa. 14:24 says, “The Lord of Hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand.”

God’s Plans never change.

3. However, our plans do change and for two reasons:

A. We don't have the perspective or foresight to know everything that is going to happen.

B. We don't have the power to implement the plan. It may involve time, money or energy that we don't have.

4. However, God has no such limitations. He Knows Everything from the beginning.

He is Omniscient. So His Perspective is always Right.

He is able to do anything He chooses. He is Omnipotent.

5. He is able to do anything He wants to do whenever He wants to do it.

God does not have another Plan if His first one does not work out.

Instead, He has a detailed and comprehensive Plan that is always right.

6. Rom. 8:28-29 says, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His Purpose."

"For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the Image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brethren."

So We Must Trust God For His Purpose.

7. (Jer. 29:12) The Lord said that they would call on His Name in Prayer and He would answer them.

(Jer. 29:13) They Lord said that they would seek and find Him only as they did so with their whole heart.

A half-hearted approach to God will not work.

8. He was tired of playing games with them. They must come before Him in Consecration,

Dedication and Sincerity.

He must be the Center of their lives. He must be the Foremost Desire of their hearts.

9. This is true for every child of God today. That is His Expectation of us as Believers.

He invites us to come to Him in prayer, no matter what our request might be.

10. In Jer. 33:3, He said, "Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

Remember, the WHO is more important than the WHAT or the HOW.

11. We must learn to Trust Him.

How do we do that? It is by getting to Know Him. The better you know someone, the more you will trust that person.

You don't trust a stranger or someone you don't know.

12. How do you get to know someone?

It is by spending time with him and learning all you can know about him.

The more we know about the Lord, the more we will Trust Him. We get to know Him as we spend time in His Word, in His House and in His Presence.

This also involves Prayer, Praise and Worship.

13. Remember, Life is about the Heavenly Father and His Work. It isn't about you and me.

It's about living for the Audience of One rather than the applause of the crowd.

It is about being focused on His Name rather than yours or mine.

14. God has Kingdom Work to do on this earth. So He is looking for Believers through whom He can do His work.

We tend to look for better methods while God is looking for better men and women.

15. Trusting Him and Being Obedient to His Will is better than great talent and determination.

Our best efforts are never equal to what God can do through our lives as we learn to Trust Him.

16. Our greatest need is to Trust God.

A. Trusting Him And His Plan.

B. Trusting Him as His People.

C. Trusting Him For His Purpose.

Let's Trust Him. His Way is always Right. He never fails. Let's do His Will. Let's do it!