

FINDING YOUR GOD INTENDED PURPOSE IN LIFE

“ALREADY CHOSEN”

In the last two lectures, we looked at Joshua and his God intended ministry and how it relates to us. In this lecture we want to look at Jeremiah and the ministry God called him to. Listen to Jeremiah giving his testimony, Jeremiah 1:1-10.

“The word of the Lord came to me saying, “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart;”

God knew him before he was formed, before he existed. God knew everything about him way back in eternity before he created the universe. God knew everything that was going to happen in his life before he made the world. The same could be said about you and me. God knew us ,all about us, what our name would be, everything about our whole life before we existed.

“Before you were born, I set you apart.” God had a special job for him to do, all planned out, before he was born. “I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” God appointed him. God appoints people to special tasks. Some of them are big tasks, some of them are small tasks but every task, every job, every ministry, whether big or small is important to God.

What was Jeremiah’s reaction to this appointment? V 6) “Ah, Sovereign Lord” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am only a child.” He calls him, Sovereign Lord , he is the Lord God who has the right to appoint people as he wills. God is the supreme ruler. But we can refuse and waste our life and end up with great regret. Jeremiah reacted but God was patient with him. V 7) “But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, “I am only a child. You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the Lord.”

Jeremiah was saying, “I’m not good enough, I’m scared, I haven’t got the gifts, it’s too much responsibility, I don’t think I can do it.” But God is saying, “Yes you can because I will be with you. Then God shows him his ministry. “ Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “Now, I have put my words in your mouth. V10) See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

That was his ministry, it is not your ministry, that was the work God gave him to do. God has a work he wants you to do. If you have a problem of working out what it is let these words help you.

Ephesians 2:10 “For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

When we accept Christ as our personal saviour we are created in Christ Jesus to do good works. What does it mean to do “good works?” It certainly doesn’t mean to do good works to yourself, it means to do good works to others. Here are some mentioned in the bible, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, care for the orphans and the widows, do unto others what you would have them do unto you and the list can go on showing the good deeds we can do for others. Jesus said, “Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” In other words our good works can influence them for God. Cause them to turn to God. Matthew 5:16.

The verse continues, “Which God prepared in advance for us to do.” The people God wants you to influence to bring to himself he prepared in advance. When did he do that? Before you were born, before you existed. So that now you are a Christian God has a group of people he wants you to make an impact on to draw them to Himself. Does that make you feel like Jeremiah? “Lord I can’t do it!” But the Lord says, “You can because I am with you.” You may not be the one who leads them all to God but you are one who influences them for God which leads to them ultimately coming to God. I hope to speak more about this in our next lecture.



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FRANK HUTCHINSON