

# Don Whitt Evangelistic Association

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## January 2018 Newsletter

### GOD'S PLAN FOR 2018

Do you ever wonder what God is up to? We ask many questions: Why does God allow stuff like this to happen? What is He doing with my life? Why is He letting me suffer? Why are there so many difficult people in my life? Why am I still stuck in the same boring job? What, if anything at all, is God doing in my life?

The people of God asked the same kind of questions during the days of Jeremiah. They had been deported to Babylon. They were exiles living in a ghetto a thousand miles from home. They are facing all kinds of heartaches and suffering. They were asking why were all these bad things happening to God's people?

Jeremiah 29 was written to answer that question. This chapter contains a letter written from home by Jeremiah. He is back in Jerusalem and he is telling them what God is doing, even when it does not seem that way.

I only get to go to my home church, Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova, Tennessee where Dr. Steve Gaines is my pastor three or four times a year. I was there on December 31, 2017 and he preached from this passage in Jeremiah 29. He shared three main truths from this passage. I want to give them to you.

#### I. God Reveals His Plan

Jeremiah 29:11 “**For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.**” Notice these are God's plans, “I know,” “I think toward you.” God's plans are not only good, but they are best!! His plans are not just for somebody else, but they are for **you!!**

Hey, God has some great plans for you in 2018. They are for your good and His glory!!

#### II. God Requires Our Prayers

Jeremiah 29:12-13 “**Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.**” God is saying His plans are kicked into gear by prayer. Does this not remind you of what Jesus said in Luke 11:9-10, “**And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.**” Then the Bible says in I John 5:14, “**And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.**” The Lord said “Ye shall search for me with your whole heart.” Let me challenge you to determine that in 2018 you are going to make seeking the heart of God a prayer priority of your life!!

#### III. God Restores Our Place

Jeremiah 29:14 “**And I will be found of you, saith the Lord: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the Lord; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive.**” God is saying, “I will restore you back to your place. Some of you used to love God, you used to be a soul winner, you used to read your Bible daily, you used to meet with God daily in prayer. Don't you think it is time to come back to Jesus? Come back to the place where you love Jesus like you used to. God wants to bless you! God wants you to experience His goodness!!

**I am excited about what God is going to do in 2018!! It is going to be awesome!**