

# Destiny

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## **INTRO.**

It is critically important to understand why you were created ... Why you are here upon this earth ... What is your purpose ... What is your destiny ... Why is it so important that we all understand destiny? ... Because everything that you do or engage in – which is outside of your ordained purpose – for which God created you for – will be in vain – no benefit to you ... It is what the scriptures call – wood – hay – stubble ... And will contribute no value for the expansion of His Kingdom ... Destiny must be understood because every person who has ever been conceived was predestined by God for a purpose.

### **Romans 8:28-30 The Voice**

We are confident that God is able to orchestrate everything - to work toward something good and beautiful - when we love Him and accept His invitation - to live according to His plan. ... From the distant past, - His eternal love reached into the future. ... You see, - He knew those who would be His one day, - and He chose them beforehand - to be conformed to the image of His Son - so that Jesus would be the firstborn of a new family of believers, - all brothers and sisters. ... As for those He chose beforehand, - He called them to a different destiny - so that they would experience what it means to be made right with God and share in His glory.

Now – you can't talk about destiny – without addressing the issue of the sanctity of life ... This includes all life – from the womb to the tomb ... Throughout Scripture – it is clear that life is given by God and that it is precious to Him ... God's intent behind creating man was to have a family that was created in His image ... And even when man screwed things up – God came to earth – took on flesh – and sacrificed Himself as the means of our redemption ... And even after all that – it is truly sad that sin – has so distorted and perverted mankind's soul – that they feel the destroying of a life can be justified ... From destroying a life in the womb – all the way to destroying the life of the elderly – and any life in between ... May I remind you of:

### **Genesis 6:5 New Living Translation**

The Lord observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth, - and HE saw that everything they thought - or imagined was consistently and totally evil.

Every person – ever conceived – regardless of the circumstances of their conception {consider Jesus’ birth} – or physical defects they were born with {consider the guy born blind} – or any other lifestyle challenges {Gideon being the least in his family} – was ordained by Almighty God to fulfill a divine purpose and destiny

### **Jeremiah 1:5 The Voice**

Eternal One: **Before I even formed you** in your mother’s womb, - **I knew all about you.** ...  
Before you drew your first breath, - **I had already chosen you** - to be My prophet to speak My word to the nations.

### **NLT**

“I knew you - before I formed you in your mother’s womb. ... Before you were born ... **I set you apart - and appointed you** - as My prophet to the nations.”

Now catch this ... In order to gain a proper understanding of purpose and destiny – you must grasp this critical concept ... Your purpose and destiny comes directly from God Himself ... You are here on earth because God preordained it – according to His own will.

### **Ephesians 1:11 New King James Version**

In Him also, we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him - - who works all things - according to the counsel of His will,

### **New Living Translation**

Furthermore, - because we are united with Christ, - we have received an inheritance from God, -  
- for HE chose us in advance, - and HE makes everything work out according to HIS PLAN.

### **TRANS.**

So, how do I discover my God given purpose and destiny?

**First – We must Understand what Purpose and Destiny is and What it is Not**

Understand this – if you are not clear on what your purpose and destiny – which was given to you by God – this world will define it for you ... This world will tell you that you are to grow up – become educated – get a job – have a family – grow old – die and pass on all your accumulated assets to your family ... Because of this worldly programming – people have made their education – job – family – assets – their purpose and destiny ... They try to find fulfillment in those things – and to some degree they can be fulfilling – but they are not what God sent you here to accomplish ... For clarity let’s look at the life of Adam ... Adam had a job – a wife – a family – assets – but was that his God given purpose and destiny?

### **What was Adam’s Job? - Gardener**

#### **Genesis 2:8, 15 New Life Version**

The Lord God planted a garden to the east in Eden. ... He put the man there whom He had made. ... 15 Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden - to work the ground and care for it.

### **What was the purpose of the Job? - Provision**

#### **Genesis 2:9-17 New Living Translation**

The Lord God made all sorts of trees grow up from the ground - trees that were beautiful and that produced delicious fruit. ... In the middle of the garden - He placed the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. ... 10 A river flowed from the land of Eden, - watering the garden and then dividing into four branches. ... 11 The first branch, called the Pishon, flowed around the entire land of Havilah, where gold is found. ... 12 The gold of that land is exceptionally pure; aromatic resin and onyx stone are also found there. ... 13 The second branch, called the Gihon, flowed around the entire land of Cush. ... 14 The third branch, called the Tigris, flowed east of the land of Asshur. ... The fourth branch is called the Euphrates. ... 15 The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. ... 16 But the Lord God warned him, “**You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden ... 17 except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. ... If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.**”

**Now – let me address this issue before I go a little bit deep into this concept:**

## **God believes in hard work – and believes it needs to be honored**

### **2 Thessalonians 3:9-10 New Living Translation**

We certainly had the right to ask you to feed us, - but we wanted to give you an example to follow. ... 10 Even while we were with you, - we gave you this command: ... “Those unwilling to work - will not get to eat.”

### **1 Timothy 5:8 New Century Version**

Whoever does not care for his own relatives, - especially his own family members, - has turned against the faith - and is worse than someone who does not believe in God.

### **1 Timothy 5:17-18 The Message**

Give a bonus to leaders who do a good job, - especially the ones who work hard at preaching and teaching. ... Scripture tells us, - “Don’t muzzle a working ox” and “A worker deserves his pay.”

The Lord expects us to work ... And the Lord expects us to be properly compensated for our work ... Now catch this - - The first thing God did with the man He created – was to put Adam into the garden – to work it and tend the garden ... Why? ... Your job is tied to your provision ... The Lord provides for you through your job ... Notice – the garden wasn’t created by Adam – so that he could provide for his own needs ... The garden was created for Adam – so that his needs could be met – as he tended to the garden ... Are you catching it? ... But a problem arose.

## **Adam is Fired from His Job**

### **Genesis 3:23-24 Easy English Bible**

So, the Lord God sent Adam out of the Garden of Eden. ... To get his food, - Adam had to dig the ground - that God had used to make him ... 24 Then God put cherubs to be guards for the garden. ... God put them on the east side of the garden. ... There was also a sword of fire that moved quickly from side to side. ... As a result, - nobody could go near to the tree that gives life.

Adam and Eve are now banished from the provision God had provided for them ... Angels are stationed to keep them out of the garden ... Heavenly beings called flaming swords are guarding the tree of life ... Now catch this:

### **Disobedience has caused Adam to enter into the Curse of Hardship.**

#### **Genesis 3:17-19 New Living Translation**

And to the man HE said, “Since you listened to your wife and ate from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat, **the ground is cursed because of you.** ... All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it. ... 18 It will grow thorns and thistles for you, though you will eat of its grains. ... 19 By the sweat of your brow will you have food to eat until you return to the ground from which you were made. ... For you were made from dust, and to dust you will return.”

#### **What is the Curse of Hardship?**

Hardship is having to consistently struggle to make ends meet ... You put in many hours of labor – yet your return on your investment of time is small ... Now – do not confuse hardship with poor stewardship ... If you are not following the biblical principles of financial stewardship – that is a whole different issue ... The curse of hardship is when your labor is producing barely enough to make it ... You are basically working pay check to pay check – and are one misfortune away from disaster ... Are you understanding what I am saying? ... You are working ... You are putting in the effort – yet your return is barely enough to make it ... **“All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it.”**

### **God never intended for us to live in Hardship**

#### **Philippians 4:18-19 New Living Translation**

At the moment I have all I need - - and more! ... I am generously supplied with the gifts you sent me with Epaphroditus. ... They are a sweet-smelling sacrifice that is acceptable and pleasing to God. ... 19 And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from His glorious riches, - which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.

## How to Break the Curse of Hardship

**Catch these revelations the best you can**

**Recognize thorns and thistles are a symbol of the curse of hardship**

“It will grow thorns and thistles for you”

You labor – you plant – you sow – yet there is little to no results for your effort

**Sweat – due to overexcretion is a result of hardship**

“By the sweat of your brow”

You work hard – you sweat – your body aches

**Look upon - - Focus upon Jesus**

**Mark 15:17 The Voice**

They put a purple robe on Him - **and made a crown of thorns** - that they forced onto His head,

**Luke 22:43-44 New King James Version**

Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, - strengthening Him. ... 44 And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. ... **Then His sweat** - became like great drops of blood - falling down to the ground.

**Galatians 3:13-14 New Living Translation**

But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. ... When He was hung on the cross, - He took upon Himself the curse for our wrongdoing. ... For it is written in the Scriptures, “**Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.**” ... 14 Through Christ Jesus, - God has blessed the Gentiles - **with the same blessing He promised to Abraham**, - so that we who are believers might receive the promised Holy Spirit through faith.

**TAKE AWAY**

**Matthew 11:28-30 The Message**

“Are you tired? ... Worn out? ... Burned out on religion? ... Come to me. ... Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. ... I’ll show you how to take a real rest. ... Walk with me and work with me - - watch how I do it. ... Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. ... I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. ... Keep company with Me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”