

# DESTINY

**Texts:** *Eph 1:4-5, 11; 1 Jn 4:17; Jn 14:12*

**Destiny** – God’s plan and purpose for His children, conceived long before they were born

- God has predestined us to be part of His overall plan in accomplishing His purpose

Ephesians 1:11 – *In him we were also chosen, having been **predestined** according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will*

- God has predestined us to be His children through Christ

**Ephesians 1:4-5** – *For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love, he **predestined** us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will.*

- God has predestined us to be like Christ

**1 John 4:17** – *... As He is, so are we in this world!*

**John 14:12** – *“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.*”

We are predestined to become like Christ.

The way we respond to the challenges of life and to God determines if we are heading to our God-given destiny or not.

For us to become His children, we need to...

- *repent from all our sins and receive Him in our hearts*
- *humble ourselves and acknowledge His lordship in our lives*
- *walk in obedience in the ways of the Lord*

**DESTINY is not a matter of chance but a matter of choice.**

Destiny is not something that you need to **wait** for, but something that you need to **decide on**, and to **enter into**.

**Our destiny is chosen by God, but its fulfilment is decided by us.**

**Jeremiah 29:11** – *I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, to give you hope and a future.*

If destiny is a matter of CHOICE, we need to be careful about our choices in life.

We need to be careful what we allow in our hearts, what we allow in our minds.

**Proverbs 4:23** (NLT) – *Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.*

The different conditions of the human heart...

- **WAYSIDE heart – UNBELIEVER**

He hears the Word but does not understand it.

- **STONY heart – NEW BELIEVER**

He hears the Word and immediately receives it with joy but there are no roots.

- **THORNY heart – CARNAL BELIEVER**

He hears the Word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the Word he has received, and he becomes unfruitful.

- **GOOD Heart – GROWING BELIEVER**

He hears the Word and understands it and keeps it or guards it with patience then bears and produces fruits.

**Galatians 6:7** - *Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.*

*If you sow an idea, you will reap an action.*

*If you sow an action, you will reap a habit.*

*If you sow a habit, you will reap a character.*

*If you sow a character, you will reap your destiny.*

A thought or an idea influenced by God and His Word can lead you to your God-given destiny.

God cannot lead us to our God-given destiny without obedience.

**Isaiah 1:19** – *If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land;*

**Deut. 28:1-3** – *If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow all his commands... the LORD your God will set you*

*high above all the nations... All these blessings will come on you... if you obey the LORD your God: You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country.*

**The Holy Spirit can only lead us and guide us when we are in OBEDIENCE.**

**Acts 5:32** - *And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him.*”

God has given the Holy Spirit to those who obey Him.

We need to be in obedience for the Holy Spirit to lead us to our God-given destiny.

Remember, our destiny is chosen by God, but its fulfilment is decided by us.

**DESTINY is not a matter of chance but a matter of choice!**