

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!