

JANUARY 17, 2021

CREATED FOR A PURPOSE

Jeremiah 1:4-10

(v. 4 & 5) Everything that God does or sanctions has a purpose. Verse 4 says, "...the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah" for a specific reason: to be God's prophet. He was chosen before he was formed in the womb for a special purpose. We give glory to God when we dedicate our lives to fulfill God's will and purpose.

When a person repents and turns their life over to God, they are set apart on a life-long journey, helping to build up the family of God. When God appointed Jeremiah to be His prophet, he expected Jeremiah to accept the responsibility to which he was called and to do the best he could with God's help. God does not give us a task without defining it. We fail when we pre-plan on our own. When we listen to God's instructions, we can accomplish great things, and the bi-product can be amazing.

(v. 6-8) When God spoke to Jeremiah about His plan, Jeremiah was hesitant to agree. He was full of excuses of how he couldn't do it. Jeremiah thought his reasons were valid. He forgot one important ingredient: God would be by his side and give him the courage and ability to perform the task. God told Jeremiah - If you put your faith and trust in me, you will go to everyone I send you to and speak whatever I tell you.

It is understandable that Jeremiah was hesitant to accept God's plan. Jeremiah knew he couldn't do the job alone. Accepting God's help is not easy sometimes. We tend to think that if God has chosen us for a certain task we should know what to do. Admitting that we need help is sometimes difficult. But, once Jeremiah stopped dwelling on the fact that he couldn't accomplish this on his own and listened to what God was calling him to do, he submitted to God's will to prophesy and proclaim God's will. God was making a covenant with Jeremiah in calling him to be His prophet. They would be a team. God would call all the plays and Jeremiah would execute, with God's help.

(v. 9-10) These two verses showed Jeremiah and us how God provides the help we need when obeying Him. Just like Jeremiah, we get overwhelmed with the task that God has called us to do. God told Jeremiah that He would put the words into his mouth that he needed to say.

Jeremiah had been appointed that day to begin doing God's bidding. He would address kings, religious leaders, and anyone that would listen. His message proclaimed God's judgment and encouragement and hope. God was sending, not asking, Jeremiah to "uproot and tear down, to destroy and demolish" the results of sin. But there was light at the end of the tunnel. If the people would hear God's message, through Jeremiah, and ask for forgiveness, there would be hope: a time to "build and plant."

We are no different than Jeremiah. We have been called to be God's prophets. When times of doubt come, we need to remember that God has placed us there and will equip us with what we need.

God bless all who seek to do His will.

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