

# CHIEF MINISTRIES

March 2022

As I just put the date on this, it has been a year (March 2021) that Chief went to be with the Lord. He used to tell me time behind bars was slow, day to day, but when he thought back that he had been in 15 years, it didn't seem that long. That is how I have been for the last year, it seems like the day crawls by, but then I look back and realize he has been gone a year..... Well so much for reminiscing..... Time to be about my Father's business!

This month I want to look at knowing God's will for our life and the assignment He planned for you. *I alone know the plans I have for you, plans to bring you prosperity and not disaster, plans to bring about the future you hope for.* <sup>v12</sup> *Then you will call to me. You will come and pray to me, and I will answer you.* <sup>v13</sup> *You will seek me, and you will find me because you will seek me with all your heart. (Jeremiah 29:11-13 GNB).*

Wow! Those 3 verses are loaded with nuggets of truth → direction.

So, here is a little history as to what was going on that prompted Jeremiah to write this letter to his brethren (followers of the Lord) those who had been taken to Babylon from Jerusalem (their home). According to the commentary by Matthew Henry, in describing the events that led up to verse 11 was this; "The case of these captives was very melancholy, they were being distinguished (by separation) from the rest of their brethren who continued in their own land, and it looked like they were greater sinners than all men who dwelt at Jerusalem. Jeremiah therefore writes a letter to them, to comfort them, assuring them that they had no reason either to despair of succour (aid, help, attend, care for) themselves or to envy their brethren that were left behind." In verse 10, "*The Lord says, 'When Babylonia's seventy years are over, I will show my concern for you and keep my promise to bring you back home. (Jeremiah 29:10 GNB).*

Let's look at a present-day application for you that are reading this. I would say, 99% or maybe all of you feel like those who were removed from their home (land) and placed in Babylon. Not getting into, guilt or innocence, just fact. All of you are away from where you started and probably where you want to be again. So, let's build on that as a start. Read on to the focus of this writing..... Let's start with Jeremiah 29:11: God says *He has a plan for you*, you know He has ALWAYS had a plan for you. The question is: do you know or recognize that plan? God's plan is to *bring you prosperity and not disaster, and to bring about the future you hoped for!* And some of you are saying, "yes but, here I am in prison, how is that supposed to happen." Well, I will tell you, some of you aren't going to want to hear this, but: it still needs to be said. First, God can and will use you wherever you are. You may not be where you want to be, and yet you are there anyway. Again, God can and will use you where you are. Our situations are a reflection of our choices. Everything in our life is Father filtered. Does God cause disaster and grief in our lives? NO, but as we walk thru them, He is there with us to help, comfort, and guide us → molding us into the image of His Son, Jesus. Remember, Jesus too was tempted and sent thru every trial we are confronted with (read Hebrews 4:15). Your role and responsibility in that is to have an open heart and spirit to allow Him to mold you into the man or woman of God that He created you to be, to fulfill the plan and purpose He has for your life. You say, "Well, how do I do that?" Good question → let's look at verse 12.

In verse 12, the Lord says: *Then you will call to me. You will come and pray to me, and I will answer you.* God does hear you and will answer you when you pray. Maybe at a later time we can look at prayer and effective praying. What I will say now, as a reminder of an earlier newsletter: You were made to be in relationship with God, (as your first love). Once you get into that posture, the struggle with many of life's ups and downs are moot. There is a song that says this so well: The title is "In The Presence Of Jehovah"

In and out of situations  
That tug-a-war at me  
All day long I struggle  
For answers that I need  
Then I come into His presence  
All my questions become clear  
And for a sacred moment  
No doubt can interfere

In the presence of Jehovah  
God Almighty Prince of Peace  
Troubles vanish hearts are mended  
In the presence of the King

Through His love the Lord provided  
A place for us to rest  
A place to find the answers  
In hours of distress  
There is never any reason  
To give up in despair  
Just slip away and breathe His name  
He will surely meet you there

In the presence of Jehovah  
God Almighty Prince of Peace  
Troubles vanish hearts are mended  
In the presence of the King

When you are in relationship with Him, or anyone, you are "in their presence." Think about that! You know one of the ways to get into that posture of relationship with the Lord is thru worship. Side track: Do you listen to Christian radio stations or worldly radio stations? This could be a starting point if you are having trouble with this in your walk. Remember: What you put in, is what comes out! If you are watching/listening/talking worldly things, your actions and fruit will be that too. If you are God focused and centered, listening to Godly things, watching Godly shows, reading Godly books, your fruit will reflect that. The more Christ like you become, the more like Christ you will be seen by those around you. OK, some of you are thinking, or saying, but this is prison, I can't spend all my time doing things for God, what would those around me think. I only have one thing to say to that: I would rather offend man than offend God! But that is me, and we ALL will be held accountable for the things we do, and don't do, say and don't say during our time in this realm, *As for me and my household we will serve the Lord (Joshua 24:15)*. I pray that is your heart too. By the way, God will take care of His own!! Fact!!

So now let's look at verse 13: *You will seek me, and you will find me because you will seek me with all your heart.* Sometimes when we "seek" the Lord, it is really His hand we are seeking. Let me expound: The verse above, (12) talks about us *praying and calling out to the Lord*. Now, be honest with yourself, cause God already knows. When you go to Him in prayer, is it to spend time with Him or to bring your

list of wants/needs/requests? It's ok, we all do the later at times...but the closer you get with Him, the more you get to know Him, His character, His love, the more you trust, (refer back to the song lyrics), all else vanishes → you start to develop in His ways. Let me say here, none of us has arrived; we are ALL still a work in process. BUT GOD is good and faithful to complete the work He has started in you and me to completion until the day of Christ Jesus (Read Philippians 1:6).

When we “seek” Him, focus on seeking His face. What do I mean? Rather than go to Him with your list of wants/needs/desires/requests, go to him just to spend time with Him. Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. (Read Psalm 100). Again, refer to the song lyrics. I know all of you who knew Chief will remember that was one of the songs he loved to play. Why, because it brought you into the Lord's presence and in there is rest, peace, love, and hope. Yes, we are to bring our “lists” to the Lord, but to any of you that are parents, if your child only came around you with a list of wants/needs/desires, how would that make you feel. I would feel like all they wanted me around for was to fulfill their lists. Of course, I'm human so, I would not be as gracious as the Lord (I'm still a work in process). But seriously, God created us to be his children. Give Him the honor and respect that He is due. Oh, and even before you go to Him with your list, He already knows what is on it. Why? Because He knows your Heart! Wow, another zinger. If God knows our heart (Read Luke 16:15). Here He was talking to the Pharisees who looked good on the outside but were phony and pious on the inside. So why am I mentioning this, because our posture/position that we come to Him in “seeking” has everything to do with our heart and what is in it. Remember what I referred to earlier, about what goes in reflects what comes out in fruit and actions. Well, this is that, so to speak. God knows, when we are sincere and when we are blowing smoke (Pharisee). As we “seek” Him, thank Him for who He is, all He has done, His love, grace, and mercy, not just with words but with an open heart, we are truly like that child who is really happy to have daddy home and just wants to sit close and be still, in His presence. I loved when my children were little and they just wanted to sit next to me or sit and watch me in the kitchen cooking, not really saying anything just being there. Actually, they still do that, and they are grown men. I believe the Lord desires that from us, His children. He wants us to spend time with Him in His presence, sorry but go back to the song! It says it all.

For those who have reached out and have continued to encourage me in continuing with the newsletter thank you! It has been an adventure and God is truly stretching me way beyond my comfort zone. But with that being said, I too know and believe when He says: *I alone know the plans I have for you, plans to bring you prosperity and not disaster, plans to bring about the future you hope for.* <sup>v12</sup> *Then you will call to me. You will come and pray to me, and I will answer you.* <sup>v13</sup> *You will seek me, and you will find me because you will seek me with all your heart.* (Jeremiah 29:11-13 GNB).

As a work in process, I am ready and willing to step into the plan God has for me and walk it out till I too am called home. What about you?

Praying for you always,

***Ms. Chief (aka Ms.G)***

***If you want to know more about CHIEF Ministries or would like to be a part, please go to [www.chiefministries.com](http://www.chiefministries.com)***

***Christ's Heart In Every Felon***