



THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

“DESTINY”

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Destiny is associated with events that are likely to happen to a particular person or thing in the future. However, it will depend on one's choices in life. Hence, the greatest desire of every Christian is to fulfill the destiny of God for his or her life. For us (Christians) to fulfill our destiny, we must make moral decisions and choices.

1. What is the Christian view of destiny?

1.1 Christians believe that there is a place for the sovereign will of God, but also, there is a place for man's personal choice (Ephesians 1:11).

1.2 Christians acknowledge that man was created with the ability to make moral choices and decisions and man is responsible for them.

2. How do we discover or fulfill our destiny?

2.1 We should have an understanding of what our destiny is. We can only actualize or pursue what we know. We have a role to work out our destiny (Philippians 2:12).

2.2 We have a responsibility to persevere and fulfill our God-given destiny. We should offer our time, talent and resources in our Christian service (Job 36). As we serve God and others, we will realize the purpose/reason why we are created for Christ.

2.3 We should submit to God's plan (Jeremiah 29:11). God has a predetermined plan for all of us (Jeremiah 1:5).

2.4 We should commit our life to Jesus and have fellowship with Him. For example, Joseph underwent many tests and trials, but he pursued the dream that God gave him. His commitment to God made him successful in attaining his destiny (Genesis 41).

2.5 We should make the right choices and decisions. To illustrate, Ruth discovered her destiny that changed her life for the better (Ruth 1:1). She did not rely on fate but relied on God to fulfill her destiny.

3. Can God change our destiny?

God distributes His gifts according to His grace. His blessings are not based on seniority or tradition. God changed the destiny of many Bible characters as a result of their actions and decisions.

3.1 Destiny could be manipulated and stolen.

Jacob stole the birthright of his brother Esau (Genesis 25 and 27).

3.2 Destiny could be aborted.

Esther, an instrument of God, prevented the destiny of the Jews to be annihilated (Esther).

3.3 Destiny could be exchanged.

A baby was being claimed by two mothers as theirs, but King Solomon's wisdom guided him to the real mother (1 Kings 3:16-28).

3.4 Destiny could be delayed.

Joshua's destiny to lead the Israelites to the Promised Land was realized only after the death of Moses (Numbers 27:18; Deuteronomy 34:9).

3.5 Destiny could be ruined.

Leading a disobedient life can ruin our destiny just like King Saul and Eli's sons (1 Samuel 2:27-36).

3.6 Destiny could be threatened by Satan

David and Bathsheba sinned against God (2 Samuel 11:2; 1 Samuel 15).

3.7 Destiny could be missed.

Judas the Iscariot betrayed Jesus (Matthew 26:15) and missed the opportunity to be His apostle.

Conclusion

St. Paul wrote that the destiny of every Christian is in Christ. God has a wonderful purpose for our life written in God's Words (Romans 8:28). He wants us to commit our life for that very purpose and have a relationship with Him. Our greatest desire and prayer should be for God to help us discover and fulfill our ultimate destiny.

Reflection:

1. How do we fulfill our destiny?

2. Are we losing hope to reach our destiny?

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#Destiny

