

## Divine & Unexpected Story Lines

***HUMANITY – Created by the Word of God but Unique in All Creation***

**GOOD is Woven Into Every Story; All God created is GOOD**

**Many lose sight of this...** “Life is hard and then you die.”

**Jer 29.11 NKJ** For I know the thoughts<sup>1</sup> that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of **peace** and not of **evil**, to **give** you a **future** and a **hope**.

**NET** ... I have plans to give you a **future filled with hope**.

### ***ANNE’S STORY –***

The intricate weavings of God!!

The **Rapist** recruited his own intercessor! God had a **different plan** for him than he had for himself!

When we think like God... the TRUTH sets us free... and we also give a future and a hope to those we influence!

**Rom 11.28 ESV** As regards the gospel, they are **enemies** for your sake. But as regards election, they are **beloved** for the sake of their forefathers. **29** For the **gifts** and the **calling** of God are irrevocable.

**33 Oh, the *depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!*** How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

When we think like God about **ourselves**, about **others** ... the TRUTH (the Goodness of God) sets **us** free... **others**

**Ps 139.16 NKJ** Your eyes saw my **substance**, being yet **unformed**.

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<sup>1</sup> מַחְשְׁבָה — thought, plan, scheme, plot, design

And in Your book they all were **written**,  
The **days fashioned\*** for me, \**form, plan, make pottery*  
When as yet there were none of them.

17 How **precious** also are Your **thoughts†** to me, O God!  
How great is the sum of them! † *intention*

18 If I should count them, they would be more in number  
than the sand;  
When I awake, I am still with You. *Living the dream!*

## ***THE PURPOSE OF THE INCARNATION***

**John 10.9 ESV** I am the **door**. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. **10** The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. **I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.**<sup>2</sup>

**All Sin is a violation of divine design; Truth brings FREEDOM  
ABUNDANT LIFE and GOOD woven into the Story**

*Background...Acts 16 – Philippi; Acts 17– Thessalonica;  
Berea; Athens Acts 18 – Corinth (sin city)*

**Acts 18:1** After this Paul left Athens and went to **Corinth**. **2** And he found a Jew named **Aquila**, a native of Pontus, recently come from Italy with his wife **Priscilla**, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. And he went to see them, **3** and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were **tentmakers** by trade. **4** And **he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath**, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks.

**5** When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was **occupied with the word**, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus. **6** And when they **opposed** and **reviled** him, he shook out

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<sup>2</sup> Greek – excessive, running over.

his garments and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on **I will go to the Gentiles.**” 7 And he left there and went to the house of a man named **Titius Justus**, a worshiper of God. His house was next door to the synagogue. 8 **Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized.**

9 And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, “**Do not be afraid**, but go on speaking and do not be silent, 10 for **I am with you**, and **no one will attack you to harm you**, for **I have many in this city** who are my people.” 11 And he stayed a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

12 But when **Gallio** was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews made a **united attack on Paul** and brought him before the tribunal, 13 saying, “This man is persuading people to worship God contrary to the law.” 14 But **when Paul was about to open his mouth**, Gallio said to the Jews, “If it were a matter of wrongdoing or vicious crime, O Jews, I would have reason to accept your complaint. 15 But since it is a matter of questions about words and names and your own law, see to it yourselves. **I refuse to be a judge of these things.**” 16 And he drove them from the tribunal. 17 And **they all seized Sosthenes, the ruler of the synagogue, and beat him** in front of the tribunal. But Gallio paid no attention to any of this.

## SOSTHENES!!

1 Cor 1.1 Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, **and our brother Sosthenes, Erastus...**

Rom 16.23 Gaius, who is host to me and to the whole church, greets you. **Erastus, the city treasurer**, and our brother Quartus, greet you.

2 Tim 4.20 **Erastus** remained at Corinth, and I left Trophimus, who was ill, at Miletus.

## The WAYS of Yahweh – “I am the Way...”

Ps 25.1 NKJ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

4 **Show your ways**, O LORD;  
**teach me your paths.**

10 All the paths of the LORD are **mercy and truth**,  
***How do we learn His ways?***

***BEHOLD the LOVE!!! “Do I know how much...?”***

1 John 3.1 NKJ **Behold** what manner of **love** the **Father** has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. 2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. ..

***You are endlessly filled with eternal Encouragement***

***YOUR LIFE is a MESSAGE that is part of an amazing story***

2 Thess 2.16 NIV May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us **eternal encouragement** and **good hope**, 17 **encourage** your hearts and strengthen you in **every good deed and word**.

***\*\*PRAYER FOR ENDLESS ENCOURAGEMENT & OVERFLOWING HOPE (DON'T BE DISTRACTED)***

Rom 15.13 NIV May the **God of hope fill you** with **all joy and peace** as you trust in him, so that **you may overflow with hope** by the **power of the Holy Spirit**.

Rom 15.33 May the **God of peace** be with you all. Amen.

Rom 16.20 The **God of peace** will soon crush Satan **under your feet**. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.