

God-Dreams, Our Scars And His Purpose

I. God Works From The End Product Back

Romans 8:29 For whom He **foreknew**, He also **predestined** to be **conformed** to the **image** of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren.³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. *NKJV*

προορίζω - to determine the horizons ahead of time. Free will, antinomy, ineffability of God

- We are **Born with Dreams** (Stories in another Dimension) that connect our purpose with God's purpose.
- Your Story is part of His Story (DNA – physical, social, spiritual identity & image) Uniqueness.

συμμορφός- to have the same form. His **image**. The Logos - the Creative Message. The Way, Truth, Life.

- Building a house. What kind of house? We **are** the house!
- God is building a dream house. We are the material being built together.

Eph 2.22 ESV In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

II. Scars Are Trophies of Grace

They represent **times when you should of quit, when you might have died.** **But the GRACE of God KEPT you!**

2 Corinthians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the **Father of mercies** and **God of all comfort**, **4** who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the **comfort** with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

8 For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond

*measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life. 9
Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should
not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead, NKJV*

οικτιρισμός — from the sound of mourners

παρακαλέω -- to come along side and exhort. “The Bishop of
York comforts his troops” Comfort—to bring to strength

You can be **deformed** by pressure!

When in a foxhole, you want to be with gnarly, scarred up veter-
ans who walk with a limp. You know they won’t get scared
and run.

III. Every Battle Increases Our Power (**Transforms**)

*Psalm 84:5 How blessed is the man whose strength is in Thee;
In whose heart are the highways to Zion!*

*6 Passing through the valley of Baca, they make it a spring,
The early rain also covers it with blessings.*

*7 They go from strength to strength,
Every one of them appears before God in Zion. NASB*

- Our Victories make a Way for those who come after us
- George Washington in the French and Indian War
- Battle Ribbons

John 16.33 ESV *I have said these things to you, **that in me you may have peace.** In the world you will have **tribulation.** But **take heart;** I have overcome the world.”*

- “Is God mad at me? Did we do something wrong?”

Rom 5.1 ESV *Therefore, since we have been **justified** by faith, we have **peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained **access** by faith into **this grace in which we stand**, and we **rejoice in hope** of the glory of God. 3 Not only that, but we **rejoice in our sufferings**, knowing that **suffering** produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not*

put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

IV. Time Is On Our Side

2 Timothy 4:5 *But you, **keep your head in all situations (self-controlled)**, endure hardship (**suffer kakos**), do the work of an evangelist (**live the GOOD NEWS**), discharge all the duties of your ministry (**fully carry out your service — the purpose**).*
NIV

God is working **through grace** through time to bring you to your destiny.

Jacob Alienation, Fear, Struggles, Transformation to **ISRAEL**, God's Face, Brother's Face

Joseph. The Dream, The Pit, Potiphar's House, The Prison, Pharaoh, The Brothers, The Father

Moses. The Calling. The Anger, Fear. Alienation. Burning Bush. Brother. People

Exod 33.11 NIV The LORD would speak to Moses **face to face**, as a man speaks with **his friend**. Then Moses would return to the camp,

God's Purpose For Your Life Is Settled IN **HIM**

Rom 8.18 MSSG That's why I don't think there's any comparison between the present hard times and the coming good times. **19** The created world itself can hardly wait for what's coming next. **20** Everything in creation is being more or less held back. God reins it in **21** until both creation and all the creatures are ready and can be released at the same moment into the glorious times ahead. Meanwhile, the joyful anticipation deepens.

22 All around us we observe a pregnant creation. The difficult times of pain throughout the world are simply birth pangs. But it's not only around us; it's *within* us. The Spirit of God is arousing us within. We're also feeling the birth pangs. **23** These sterile and barren bodies of ours are yearning for full deliverance.

- 24 That is why waiting does not diminish us, any more than waiting diminishes a pregnant mother. We are enlarged in the waiting. We, of course, don't see what is enlarging us. 25 But the longer we wait, the larger we become, and the more joyful our expectancy.
- 26 Meanwhile, the moment we get tired in the waiting, God's Spirit is right alongside helping us along. If we don't know how or what to pray, it doesn't matter. He does our praying in and for us, making prayer out of our wordless sighs, our aching groans. 27 He knows us far better than we know ourselves, knows our pregnant condition, and keeps us present before God. 28 That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good.

Romans 8:28 *And we know that God causes **all things to work together for good** to those who love God, to those who are called according to His **purpose**.* NASB

THE CALL OF THE PURPOSE—God's PURPOSE is like a signal emitting device. Eternal, unchanging, outside of time and space.

Contingencies, degrees of fulfillment, multi-generational destinies.

V. Invitation

- Do you GRASP God's Purpose?
- Are your scars shining with God's light?
- Have you been defeated or made glorious by your battles?

Rom 15.13 ESV *May the God of hope **fill** you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may **abound in hope**.*