

Outline – November 21, 2021
Proverbs 31:25-27; Jeremiah 29:11-13;
1 Corinthians 3:21-23
The Future

What Will Your Future Look Like?

- I. The questions we ask about (our future)**
 - A. How can we know our future?
 - 1. Can we know?
 - 2. Is it just fate?
 - B. Do we have any input or say about our future?
 - C. How can a person “smile” at the future?
- II. The Bible teaches that God has a plan for our future (Jeremiah 29:11)**
 - A. As we call on Him
 - B. As we search for Him
 - C. As we follow Him
 - D. As we belong to Him (When you are His, the future is yours)
- III. Why is this so important? Why does this really matter?**
 - A. When you lose your sense of future (can’t smile at the future)
 - 1. You lose your sense of hope
 - 2. You feel trapped in time
 - 3. You feel depressed, doubtful and disappointed
 - 4. You feel fearful and faithless
 - 5. You think wicked thoughts
 - 6. You do wicked things
 - 7. Wickedness becomes your master
 - B. But when we can smile at the future, we have a future we look forward to.
 - C. How does one smile at the future?
 - 1. Ask, seek, knock ... A connection to God creates a connection to your future.
 - 2. Choose godly counsel and godly friends (choose your friends, choose your future)
 - 3. Analyze the path you are on
 - 4. Look at the habits of our past and present
 - 5. Look at the choices you are making today
 - a. Choices either imprison you or set you free
 - b. Choice to be thankful or ungrateful
 - c. Choose who your faith is in
 - 6. Look at your dreams and goals
 - a. They increase our potential
 - b. Help us prioritize life
 - 7. What is your attitude?
 - a. Attitude determines altitude
 - b. Attitude determines actions which determine accomplishments
 - c. You are responsible for your attitude
 - d. Signs of a good attitude
 - 1) Thankful to God

- 2) See best in others
- 3) Focus on solutions
- 4) Ability to see God's hand
- 5) Desire to give/serve
- 6) Persistence
- 7) Responsibility

IV. How do I know if I am moving into a future that God has for me? (A future I can smile about)

- A. If your heart is filled with fear and doubt (there is no smiling)
- B. If your heart has no gratitude
- C. If Messiah is not a part of your life
- D. But if you make choices that produce:
 1. Love
 2. Hope
 3. Blessing
 4. Honors God
 5. Then you know you have made the right choice and you are moving into the future God has for you
- E. If your trust is in Messiah Jesus
- F. The future is not about your fate, but it's about your faith

V. When our faith is in God's future for us

- A. We rejoice in His grace
- B. We see a future beyond our imagination
 1. God often described a future to His people beyond their imagination
 2. To Abram
 3. To nation of Israel
 4. To followers of Jesus
- C. As God blesses us
 1. We honor Him with thankfulness
 2. We bless others
 3. We help others into a better future

VI. The future Jesus offers (if you choose it)

- A. An eternal life
 1. Heaven
 2. Kingdom
 3. New Heaven, New Earth
- B. Ingredients to break out your past and your paralysis (Faith, hope, love)
- C. Overcoming Doubt, fear, ingratitude, bad attitude
- D. The ability to smile at your future

**To Be Thankful For The Plans He Has For You
For That Is What Really Matters**