

Destiny

Sermon #0942

Study by W. D. Frazee—October 10, 1963

“And who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?” Esther 4:14.

What is that word thou? What does it mean? It is you, but it is singular. Our common word “you” doesn’t reveal whether it is talking to one or a million. But “thou” is not ambiguous. Thou is one. The German—du, Spanish—tu.

And so through Mordecai God says to Esther, Thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this. You are not at the right place, but its the right time. You are where you belong to do a certain work.

Now in the book Education this is applied to every one of us today.

“To every household and every school, to every parent, teacher, and child upon whom has shown the light of the gospel, comes at this crisis the question put to Esther the queen at that momentous crisis in Israel’s history, ‘Who knoweth whether *thou* art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?’ Esther 4:14.” *Education*, page 263.

The “thou” is put in italics. That is the important thing, it is the “thou.” It is the Mary, the John, the Harry, the Alice, the individual. You, “thou” are where you are for a certain reason, a certain job, a certain opportunity. People do not happen, they are planned. They are planned for a purpose, for a destiny. Now individuals can thwart that purpose, they can miss their destiny, but this grieves the Lord, the One who did the planning.

Let’s look at Jeremiah, the first chapter. Did God plan Jeremiah? After he was born, did God look over the likely young men growing up there in Judah, and say well, now there is a young man, it looks like we could do something with him?

“Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee” Jeremiah 1:5.

It isn’t that somebody is born, and then God thinks, well how will they fit in? No. You are formed. You are planned for a certain destiny. You know the pitiful thing about

it is hardly anybody ever finds it out. Isn't that too bad. They don't know what they are missing. And one of the biggest things you can learn in this class in orientation is that there is such a plan, and how to find out what it is for you. That is it. Every thing else is very secondary and incidental.

And as I say hardly anybody knows it. And as the result there is a great deal of thinking and talk along this line. Well now let's see, here are various things that you might do. You might be a teacher. You might be a carpenter. You might be a cook. You might be a bookkeeper. You might be a doctor. You might be a minister.

Now let us see. Let us consult certain findings. Let us give you certain tests. Look the thing over. See what appeals to you. What are your aptitudes? What are your interests? So on and on.

Now the most difficult thing about all that is that a lot of it is true. I mean, we do have certain aptitudes. Some people can sing high tenor, and some can't. Some, as the saying is, can't carry a tune in a basket. They are just deficient when it comes to music. And obviously we wouldn't appoint such a person to lead the choir.

That is all very clear. And it is because that is so clear, and so obvious that it can be very misleading. Because it could happen that there is more than one thing that you could do in life. In fact I surmise that there are a dozen things that you could do in life in a fairly successful way.

Well then how do you know? You don't know. But God does. You are not going to find out, my dear friends, by conferring with flesh and blood, your own or anybody else's. And never think you are. No. You may miss the great appointment with destiny.

Jeremiah didn't think he could do what the Lord wanted him to do, but the Lord said to Jeremiah, I knew all about this before I ever made you Jeremiah, and I have made you to be a prophet. Before you were ever born, before you were ever conceived I ordained you a prophet among the nations.

Did Jeremiah meet the appointment? Yes. Was he a prophet? All his life. Thank the Lord.

Would you be happy to find out something like that about yourself. Not that you are to be a prophet necessarily, no, but to find out what it is you were born for. Let's go to Isaiah.

"Listen, O isles, unto Me; and hearken, ye people, from far;
The Lord hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of
my mother hath he made mention of my name. And he hath
made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of His

hand hath He hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in His quiver hath He hid me; and said unto me, Thou art my servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified” Isaiah 49:1-3.

Isn't that wonderful friends. To be chosen from a far. God wants you to have that assurance. He wants you to have that joy. He wants you to have that courage. He wants you to have that courage. It is your privilege. It is your birthright.

Here is a little comment from *Testimonies for the Church*, volume nine.

“The terms ‘My servant,’ ‘Israel,’ ‘the Lord’s servant,’ mean anyone that the Lord may select and appoint to do a certain work” *Testimonies For the Church*, Vol 9, page 138.

So if God has selected and appointed you to do a certain work, this verse I just read is for you.

“The terms ‘My servant,’ ‘Israel,’ ‘the Lord’s servant,’ mean anyone that the Lord may select and appoint to do a certain work. He makes them ministers of His will,...” *Ibid*.

Now somebody might think we were egotistical if we should apply these to ourselves. But my dear friends, it isn’t a question of being egotistical, it is a question of believing what the Lord says. And if the Lord loves me this much, why shouldn’t I believe it, and revel in it, and rejoice in it? In fact, if this isn’t so, what do I got to live for? I would hate to go through life just filling a niche. I am content to fill the niche, however small it is, but not just a niche.

Now let’s go to Isaiah the forty-fifth chapter, the first verse. Who is this talking to? Cyrus. Who wrote this down? Isaiah. Where was Cyrus when this was written? He wasn’t it. That’s right. His father and mother weren’t either. This was written over a hundred years before the birth of Cyrus.

Now when Cyrus was finally born was he a jew? No. Did he know the Lord? What kind of home did he grow up in? A heathen home. He finally came to the throne of the Medo-Persian empire. And the prophet Daniel went to that man Cyrus. And he said, Cyrus, I want to show you something. You are the king of the world. Do you know how you happened to be the king of the world? And he pulls out an old scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Daniel says, Cyrus, here is something that was written over a hundred years before you were born. And he reads this:

“Thus saith the Lord to His anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut” Isaiah 45:1.

Cyrus says, that was written a hundred years before I was born. Yes. Well I remember the night we conquered Babylon the gates were left open. That’s it. Read on.

“I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron: and I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the Lord, which call thee by thy name, and the God of Israel. For Jacob my servant’s sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known Me” *Ibid*, 2-4.

What do you suppose Cyrus felt? Why he was thrilled! Thrilled! But now that wasn’t all that he read. I want you to go back to the preceding verses.

“Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and He that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by Myself; that frustrateth the tokens of the liars, and maketh diviners mad; that turneth wise men backward, and maketh their knowledge foolish” Isaiah 44:24-25.

Now watch as we come to the point.

“That confirmeth the word of His servant, and performeth the counsel of His messengers; that saith to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be inhabited; and to the cities of Judah, Ye shall be built, and I will raise up the decayed places thereof: that saith to the deep, Be dry, and I will dry up thy rivers: that saith of Cyrus, He is My shepherd, and shall perform all My pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.” Isaiah 44:26-28.

And Cyrus looked at that, and he looked at Daniel, and he said, if your God thought enough of me to write my name down a hundred years before I was born, if he thought enough of me to tell me that He would give me this conquest, and open the gates before me, and if He said I was the one to rebuilt His temple, I'll do it.

He met his appointment with destiny, friends. He didn't miss it.

Now could he have missed it? Yes, he could. He could. Go to Daniel the tenth chapter and I will show you something. Talk about the study of history friends, these are the things in history we need to know and understand. God had worked behind the scenes working out the council of His own will.

You remember the setting of this tenth chapter of Daniel. The eighth chapter, Daniel had had the vision of the ram and the he-goat, the twenty-hundred days. He had prayed for more light on it. The ninth chapter he had gotten the numbers and the seventy weeks, but he didn't understand it all. And he saw that the time was just about over for the seventy years of captivity, and he didn't see anything moving to get the Jews back to Jerusalem, and it concerned him.

So the tenth chapter says he went on a very simple diet for three weeks, the second and third verses. He devoted himself to prayer, to the strictest diet for three weeks seeking the Lord.

Now do you know what was happening those three weeks while Daniel was praying over this matter of the Jews getting back to Jerusalem? Well Gabriel tells him in the twelfth and thirteenth verses, he says, from the very first you set your heart to seek the Lord, we heard you in heaven. And I came to answer your prayer, but, the thirteenth verse:

“But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days:...” Daniel 10:13.

How long is that? Three weeks. Do you see the connection between the second verse, and the thirteenth? How long did Daniel pray? How long does fight him? Three weeks.

“...but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia” *Ibid*.

So Gabriel, and even Michael, had to come into the fight, because Satan was moving upon some of the princes of Persia to try to influence Cyrus not to do this, you understand. But who gained the victory? God did. Who made the decision? Cyrus did. But now think of that wonderful prophecy written over a hundred years before Cyrus was born.

Who was to restore Jerusalem, build the temple? Cyrus, named by name before he was born. Before the temple was ever destroyed provision was made for it, and God's plan for its rebuilding. Before it was ever overthrown, the man was named that was to give the edict to build it up again. God's never taken by surprise. I think that is wonderful don't you?

Wouldn't it be wonderful if God thought that much of you? To plan for you before

you were ever born? Has He? Why were you born anyway? Oh my friends, the fact that you are here to hear these facts makes me know that you have a destiny that is above the ordinary. There are millions of people that don't know what we are studying.

God didn't bring you here merely to sit in a seat. He brought you here to get these two great experiences. First, to know that there is a destiny for which you were born. Second, to get the tools with which to find out what that destiny is. If you find it out, will you like Cyrus accept the assignment? Will you? I will tell you will never know what it is unless you do. You will never know what it is unless you do.

“Until you have the resolution to obey God's will you cannot have His guidance” *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol 5, page 511.

Which has to come first? The resolution, the determination, the decision to carry out God's will. “And until you have the resolution to obey God's will you cannot have His guidance.”

These facts that you are getting this afternoon, some of you will use these to help many a soul. If you want the proof for what I said about Daniel talking to Cyrus about these verses, and Cyrus' response, I was just giving it in human words, but if you want the proof for it, you will find it by reading *Prophets and Kings*.

Read there what it says about Cyrus. Cyrus was given these prophecies to read by Daniel. It thrilled his soul, and he responded. It isn't some fiction, some make-believe. That happened. That is why God put it down there in the book of Isaiah. What a shame if the very man for whom it was written had never found it. And oh what a shame if the plan that was laid for your life should fail, because you were too busy running after some career, some idea, some suggestion, somebody's or your own whims and fancies, and missed it. Missed the thing you were born for.

Acts 7:20. Now there is just a little expression I want to get out of this verse. The first line:

“In which time Moses was born...” Acts 7:20.

In which time Moses was born. Well why was he born in that time? That was the time they needed him. Had God told Abraham how long his seed would be there in Egypt? Did they come out the right day? The selfsame day. ?? and Satan studied the prophecies, and he knew that that time was drawing near, and that somebody was going to be born. He was the one that inspired the cruel pharaoh to order that all the baby boys should be thrown into the Nile river. He said, we'll fix that. We'll just have all the boys drowned. That is the way we will take care of that.

But God took that very situation and used it to have Moses found by the princess. You remember he was taken up there and was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was mighty in words and deeds. How God uses the designs of the Devil to defeat him.

But my point is, who was born in that time? Moses. Was anybody like Moses before? Anybody like him since? No, that is what it says:

“And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses,...” Deuteronomy 34:10.

Where would the exodus have been without Moses? Well you say I know Moses of course, that's wonderful, but then I would never do anything like Moses. Well of course not, but may I say it, and I mean it friends, you couldn't do Moses' work, but then Moses couldn't do your work either. Moses could not do yours.

You have been born at a certain time for a certain job just as Moses was born at a certain time for a certain job. Let's meet our appointment. What do you say?

Now I going to come down a little nearer to our time. Quite a bit nearer. Sister Ellen G. White had a son. In fact, she had four sons. One of them died when he was sixteen years old, her oldest. The youngest, little Herbert died when he was still a baby. The two middle sons grew to manhood. One of them, James Edson, the older of the two, was a pioneer in the work here in the south. It was on his boat the Morning Star that the quest was undertaken for the work which eventually developed the self-supporting school in Madison. He was a pioneer in the work for the colored people.

The other son, W. C. White, especially after the death of his father became his mother's right hand man. He was her helper particularly in the publishing of her books. It was my privilege to know him personally, and to count him as a dear friend, and a valued counselor. And I was white thrilled one day to read, in a message that Sister White wrote back in 1907, some words that God had given her concerning this boy, this man. A white haired man when I knew him. But this was written earlier. It has since been printed in this little book *Selected Messages*, book one.

"It was also shown me that my son, W. C. White, should be my helper and counselor, and that the Lord would place on him the spirit of wisdom and of a sound mind" *Selected Messages*, Book One, page 54.

Then she gives on page 55 the very words of her instruction.

"The Lord will be your instructor. You will meet with deceptive influences; they will come in many forms, in pantheism and other forms of infidelity; but follow where I shall guide, and you will be safe. I will put My Spirit upon your son, and will strengthen him to do his work. He has the grace of humility. The Lord has selected him to act an important part in His work. For this purpose was he born" *Ibid*, page 55.

Would it thrill you to read something else about yourself? Well friends, put your name in there. What did I read in volume nine, as we were studying that verse in Isaiah says before he was born the Lord had made mention of his name?

"The terms 'My servant,' 'Israel,' 'the Lord's servant,' mean anyone that the Lord may select and appoint to do a certain work" *Testimonies For the Church*, Vol 9, page 138.

Now volume seven:

“With intense interest God is looking on this world. He has noted the capacity of human beings for service. Looking down the ages, He has counted His workers, both men and women, and has prepared the way before them,...”
Testimonies for the Church, Vol 7, page 25.

Here you are. Everyone of you, looking down the ages, God has seen you. Will you do what He planned for you, or will you run chasing this jackrabbit and that? Suppose you catch it. Would it be a shame to do the thing you planned to do, and miss the thing that God planned for you to do? Wouldn't it be?

Suppose you were successful, suppose you became the greatest soloist on the stage? Suppose you began a great industrial leader? Suppose you became a millionaire? Suppose you became an aviator and made some new record in altitude or speed? Whatever it is thrilling the minds, and filling the hearts of people today, suppose you could succeed in that?

You notice I haven't picked out anything wicked. I haven't talked about being a great bootlegger, or a great gambler, or anything like that. No. I don't think that is troubling any of you. Oh, my friends, the enemy knows how to make you tap. When he came to tempt Jesus, he didn't suggest that he eat something bad, he said, command that these stones be made what? Bread. Not pork, not whiskey, but bread.

And when he took him up there on that great mountain, he didn't offer Him a lot of pig holes, he didn't show Him Las Vegas, or Hollywood. He didn't show Him Sodom. He showed Him the glories, and the beauties of this present world. Right? And to my mind, one of the greatest dangers that faces Seventh-day Adventist young people today is the lure of the good. The lure of the good.

Here is something good, something wonderful that you can do, that you can be, and usually it won't take so much sacrifice. You just go after it. Or if it does take a great deal of sacrifice, you will be able to enjoy the fruits of it later. Oh my friends, what did Jesus do as He looked over that great landscape? He turned away. He turned away, and He took the cross instead. Why? That is what he was born for.

Born to die! Born to die! Did He die? Was that what He was born for? Did He accept it? Oh yes!

“...For this cause came I unto this hour...” John 12:27

He didn't miss that appointment with destiny. He knew what He was born for, and to fulfill that He traveled on. He left all those bright visions, all those dreams with the tempter who had set them before Him.

Looking down the ages, God has counted His workers and He has seen you. Will you do that thing for which you were born? Or will you merely do something? You know that a lot of people today have the idea that the great thing in life is just to get what is called an education, marry, and settle down. What ever settling down means? But oh I am sorry to say many times it is done, my friends.

I know young person after young person, they don't think they can do until they get a wife, a home, furniture, a car, and by that time they have so many responsibilities, friends. There are hundreds of them that start out with good intentions and never get where they are going. Never do it. Well you say isn't that alright? That is alright if that is what you were born for!

But Livingston would never have reached the heart of Africa on that program. He would have simply been a good successful Christian somewhere in Scotland. And Stahl would never have opened up the work among those Indians down in South America on a program of that kind. He might have been a good pillar of some local church here in North America. Maybe he would and maybe he wouldn't, I don't know. But to find and fill the place you were born for. Looking down the ages, He has counted His workers.

Another wonderful statement that thrills my soul every time I read it.

“God has His workman in every age. The call of the hour is answered by the coming of the man” *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol 6, page 332.

There is something about that like the sound of marshal music, like the voice of the bugle. “The call of the hour is answered by the coming of the man.” Notice the detail of it, how specific it is. It doesn't say the call of the hour is answered by the coming of a man. The man. The man. That is what it has taken in all the ages past. That is what it is going to take today.

Go back to Judges Chapter thirteen and fourteen. Who's story is this? Samson. Who is oppressing Israel? The Philistines. So they cry to the Lord. The Lord is going to have a deliverer. But among all the thousands and tens of thousands of children and young people in the land of Israel, there isn't a one to do the job, and God has to work a miracle to have a special child born. What is his name? Samson.

Notice in the second verse, his mother up to this time was barren. She didn't have any children. Did they want children? Yes, but she didn't have any. But now God works miracles. Here comes the angel of the Lord, third verse and on, and he gives

instruction concerning this child. In the fifth verse, after the instruction, it says:

“And he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines” Judges 13:5.

Well the rest of the chapter is taken up with the story of the visits of this angel, the mighty angel from heaven giving instructions to this mother and her husband as to how they are to train that child. What is his name? Samson. Did he meet the appointment? Well, part way.

Did he do something? Did he kill several thousand Philistines? That is the thing of it friends, he ended up there slave with his eyes gouged out. Why? Because he wanted what he wanted. Yes. The key to his whole life is in the third verse of the next chapter. The first three verses tell the story. There in Timnath he saw. It says:

“...saw a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines” Judges 14:1.

He saw. Well hadn't he seen a lot of others? Yes. But this one, there was something about her that enchanted him. Now that is a thrilling love story, isn't it? No friends, it isn't. It is a sad one.

So when he talked to his father and mother about it, he simply asked them to go get him this woman for a wife. If he had been living in the twentieth century, he wouldn't have even asked them.

Now notice the third verse. They said, Isn't there any woman among all the Israelites that you have to go down there and get that daughter of the Philistines? What was his answer? He didn't argue the thing, he simply announced a fact. What was it?

“Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well” Judges 14:3.

There is the key my friends, to his experience. I want what I want. And they let him. If I want to drink wine, I am going to drink wine even if I am supposed to have a nazirite oath. And if this is the woman I want, then she is alright friends. “Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well.”

Can a man meet his appointment with destiny on that program? Never! Whether it is marriage, or whether it is appetite, or whether it is education, or whether it is work, life, career, anything else my friends. Your desires, your whims, your impulses, are what is going to guide you, you will never even know what your appointment with destiny was. Never.

Finding out your place so you know how to fit into it. Well now there is another young man and his story is strikingly like this young man's, and yet strikingly different.

You know what his name is? John the Baptist. You read about him in Luke one.

Had his mother been barren? Was he born for a special work? Did the angel from heaven come and tell his father and mother how they were to train him? Did it include what to it, and what not to eat? Yes. Very similar friends. He was a miracle child. But oh the difference between John and Samson. What did John do? He accepted the assignment.

He said, if God has chosen me for a special work, I will be willing to be different. Was the place where he lived different? Was his education different? Was his diet different? Was his dress different? Did he spend the first thirty years of his life just pulling at his parents, and pleading, and begging, and cajoling and teasing to be a little more like the young people down in Jerusalem? Did he? No friends, if he had he never would have met the appointment with destiny.

May I tell you very frankly friends, one of the sorrows of my life is to see young people on this place missing the opportunity to be real reformers. Just missing the opportunity. Just whittling away at it. Bless your hearts friends, you could be like John the Baptist. But if you follow the fashions of the world you won't be like John the Baptist. The music of this world won't lead you to that program. The dress of this world won't lead to it. The chit chat of this world won't lead to it. The careers of this world won't lead to it. Oh I long that when young people from other places come on this campus, they sense at once, here is something entirely different.

Somebody says, Brother Frazee aren't things different? There is not rosier lipstick around here. Friends, I could lead you to a hundred places where there isn't any rosier lipstick. I don't think anybody deserves any gold medal, or special star for that sort of thing. What we need is convictions that make us different. I don't mean just to be different, but to be like Jesus. To do the work of John the Baptist. To be different upon every one of these reforms that God had given.

Was John a reformer? We are told that his whole life was devoted to the work of reform. But my point is he didn't have to be pulled at all. There wasn't somebody pulling at him all the time and saying, John, I noticed you did something the other day and really it isn't up to standard. Well, I guess if I have to do why I have to do it. No. That wasn't the program.

Find out what you were born for. It will make a lot of difference in the way you talk, the way you dress. Its a dress that is appropriate to some things, that isn't appropriate to some others. Let me speak for just a minute to you girls. Ellen Harmon was a girl. How old was she when she had her first vision? Seventeen. If you would hear that God had restored the gift of prophecy today, and He had sent His angel Gabriel from heaven with a vision and given it to His chosen handmaiden down here in this world today, and you saw a picture of it and she looked like you, dressed like you are today, would you be surprised? You say, my would a prophet really look like that?

But friends, should the prophet be any more reformatory than the people that listen to the prophet? Is the prophet supposed to follow the reforms, but the other people can run with Babylon, and Sodom, and Hollywood? Oh friends, it is a wonderful thing to have the same kind of response to the chosen destiny of the Lord as John the Baptist did. Shall we meet it?

“Not more surely is the place prepared for us in the heavenly mansions than is the special place designated on earth where we are to work for God” *Christ Object Lessons*, page 327.

Do you believe that?

Now if you get bold in this friends, and somebody says, why are you at Wildwood anyway? You don't have to start listing all the bad things about some other place. My those are pitiful weak reasons for being some place, because some place else is weak, or bad, or wicked. The great reason for being where you are is you are where you belong. You are where God has put you. And even if there were ten thousand places a hundred times better, and easier, and more spiritual, the one place for you is where? That special place that God has planned.

So let's have done with all these comparisons. Let's have done with this kind of talk, oh I am in a certain place because it is more spiritual. I am in a certain place because, because, because. There is one reason for being where you are, if you are where God wants you. And that is simply this, I believe God has put me here. I believe He has something for me to get here, and something to give.

If you really believe that friends, and that is really true, there is nothing in the world to move you from that. And it doesn't involve making any slighting remarks about other places, or other people. It doesn't leave the impression that you think that you are more holy, or more righteous, because you are living in a certain piece of geography. And it doesn't leave the impression that you think that everybody ought to be on board this boat. God would have to make it a lot bigger if that were so.

It simply means that you for yourself have found out what God wants you to do, and by His grace, you are trying to do that, and you expect that God will help everybody else to know the same thing for them. And you will not wait until everybody else understands what you are doing. Neither will you wait until you understand what everybody else is doing.

You know in war time, every soldier doesn't know the orders of every other soldier on the battlefield does he? There is just one thing he needs to know. What is that? His own orders. That is all. And if he is in the infantry, it matters not that somebody else is in the artillery, and somebody else in the signal corps. It takes all

those different ones to make up the army. But that doesn't mean that he can look it over and say, you know I think I would like to be in the signal corps today. I think it would be so nice to get up there and wig wag those flags back and forth. You know I have carried this gun for weeks. Somebody else can carry the gun. I think I will wig wag today.

For one thing was I born and that is the thing for me to do today. Is that right?

“Not more surely is the place prepared for us in the heavenly mansions than is the special place designated on earth where we are to work for God” *Ibid*.

You know I have tried to think about it. We are going up there to heaven pretty soon. Suppose I go up there and finally I get to see Jesus. And I am so glad to see Him, and He seems glad to see me. But suppose He says, after we have visited a little while, now let's see, you will need a place to stay won't you? Gabriel do we have a place for him to stay? And Gabriel thinks a minute, and he looks at some charts, and cards, and he says, Yes there is an empty apartment down in project 583, room 3225.

So Gabriel summons an angel and says, will you show him down to that empty room up there in that project? There is his number, so and so. Off we go.

Is that the way it is going to be? No. Why not? Wouldn't that be good enough? No, it wouldn't. What was it Jesus said in John 14:2 and 3?

“I go to prepare a place for you” John 14:2.

A nice little place. A cute little place. Maybe somebody will want a great big one, somebody from Texas perhaps. But whatever it takes to please you my friend, a cute little place, or a great big place, a place in the wide spreading plains, a place on the lofty mountains, “I go to prepare” what? A place for you.

You mean there isn't anything up there? Oh yes.

“In my Father's house are many mansions: ..[But] I go to prepare a place for you” John 14:2

I love it! And when I go there, He is going to take me bag and baggage in His own dear hand is going to open the door and come in, and I will see a place that is made just for me. And while it will thrill you to see what I have, it will thrill me in a way that it will never thrill you. You will enjoy visiting there, but oh you will be so glad when you can bring me over to your house and your yard, and show me the peculiar and wonderful things that God made for you. And there will be no jealousy, no envy, nobody will say, oh why didn't He do this for me? Why didn't he give me that or this, or the other. No. No, friends. We get over all that down here.

But I will tell you the thing that gets us over it. It isn't in reconciling ourselves to just have bread and water the rest of our lives. It is in rising to the height of understanding that God has something better for me than anybody else in the world could ever give me. Here and hereafter. And what a fool I would be to be envious of other people. True, God is planning something wonderful and great for them, but it isn't for me. It wouldn't fit me. I wouldn't fit in.

If God has called somebody else to be a doctor, I rejoice. We need some doctors. But friends, there was a friend of mine, a good doctor friend that offered to pay my whole way through medical college. Well you say, why in the world didn't you take it? Would you take it if somebody offered it to you? Well, I sure would. Well then you need to study this subject.

If offering to get your way paid through medical college would put you there, friends, then you sure need to understand this subject. Do you think that there would be money enough in this world to buy John the Baptist out of the caves of the wilderness of Judea to go down there and take a wonderful course? Don't misunderstand me, if God had called me to take the medical course sure I would have done it. But I would have done it friends whether anybody offered to pay my way through or not. Do you see what I am talking about? Why should money become the thing that settles it?

What a cheap way of settling the decisions of life. Where the money is I will go. Where it isn't, I will stay away from it. How simple. How silly. If God wants you to take the medical course, by all means, take it. If you have to live on bread and water to do it, sure, if that is God's call. And God calls some people to that. My point is, He didn't call me to that. Do you think I have been sorry all my life? Do you think that again and again I have looked back and thought oh my, isn't it too bad that I missed that wonderful opportunity? Think what I could be. Think where I could have been! Think of all the good I could have done with all the money I could have made. Do you see what I mean friends?

So thank God there is an appointment with destiny. And:

“Not more surely is the place prepared for us in the heavenly mansions than is the special place designated on earth where we are to work for God” *Ibid*.

Now you know if I was the Devil, do you know what I would do? I know exactly what I would do. Some of you are going to wonder how in the world I knew what was going on in your mind, but I will tell you right now, what is going on in somebody's mind right now.

I can't read your mind either, but I know something about the Devil. If I were the Devil, I would be going up and down these aisles, and I would be whispering in somebody's mind, that is a pretty smooth talk to try to get you to just get stuck in this kind. That is just what I would say.

I know the Devil has told somebody here. You don't need to tell me whether he did or not. He has. That is what he has told somebody. He is very smooth. And I would say this very frankly to you friends, very smoothly. And if what I am saying is just smooth talk to get you stuck in the sticky paper, then don't you pay any attention to it at all. If God has a work for you to do, and someplace else, then by all means friends, be where God has called you. Be where God has called you. And if you don't know where God has called you, then that is what I want to study with you.

But the reason that I have studied with you in these early classes the science of prayer is because you will never know what your destiny is, and how to meet that destiny unless you learn to pray. And if you will take to the secret place of prayer, which I trust has already grown to be a very homey little place where you and Jesus meet alone, if you will take to that place of prayer these thoughts on destiny, and will wrestle with God until you know what God wants you to do in your life, you will have something friends, that nobody in this world can give you, and nobody can take away.

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