

# The Ark Community

## # 130: Purpose (part 1)

by Tony Palmer (EU)

Our objective in life is to SEEK to FULFILL the WILL of GOD for our lives, which was plainly pronounced by His Christ: ***"I have come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly"***. (John 10:10). This is THE LIFE - to live God's Plan for our lives. Life in it's fulness is God's desire for His Children - all humanity. During the next couple of weeks, we will investigate the Biblical promise of what God's purpose is for Humanity, and the way to fulfill it. - Scriptural foundation

- O.T Prophet Jeremiah: (29:11) ***"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."***
- N.T Apostle Paul, writing to the Christians in the Turkish city of Ephesus (2:10) ***"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."***

The very first step we need to take is to BELIEVE that we DO have a PURPOSE and the purpose is GOOD... ! Don't be afraid to reach out, step out and embrace it. It's true that there's a 'cost' to finding and fulfilling our purpose in life, but the rewards far exceed the costs. Are you really willing to loose your own soul in order to gain the world? Not embracing your purpose in life will cause you to loose your soul, you'll slowly die a little each day, living a life you weren't meant to live. Your gifts and talents will be left unused and will haunt you each day of your life. You will experience frustration and un-fulfillment. You will live your life watching others live theirs. **You will be a spectator in of life and not a player** - the window of compromise and complacency will separate you from your God-ordained ecstasy. Dare to live your dreams. Failure is not failing to succeed, it's not trying..! "Your heart is free, have the courage to follow it". **It's true the Brave don't live forever, but the cautious don't live at all..!**

- Apostle Paul writing to the Church in Rome: (8:28-30) *"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified."*
- O.T King of Israel, David the Psalmist: (Psl 139:13-18)

*"For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb.  
I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;  
Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.  
My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret,  
And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.  
Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed.  
And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me.  
When as yet there were none of them.  
How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God!  
How great is the sum of them! If I should count them,  
they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still with You."*

The Biblical fact is that our purpose preceded our creation. The only people that don't have a purpose are those who don't exist. The ancient Church Father, St. Augustine (354-430AD), said: ***"What is predestined is foreknown, but not all that is foreknown is predestined"***

Again st. Augustine says: (1) ***"In the Gospels is the clearest example of a human being - Jesus of Nazareth, whose humanity is pleasing to God. It is pleasing not because Jesus overcame the temptations of the flesh and thereby earned God's favor, but because at heart Jesus was never anything other than the person God intended Him to be"***.

Living your purpose is living life as God intended it: (Prov 13:12)

***"Hope deferred makes the heart sick,  
But when the desire comes, it is a tree of life."***

'Purpose' and 'Calling' are synonyms, they both really mean VOCATION. 'Life' is 'THE vocation, and ALL are called to live it out loud... would you like to join in? You were born for a REASON so live it..!