

The Foolishness of God

God Makes Everything Turn Out For Good

April 25, 2010 – Joe Dietrich

⁴ *The word of the LORD came to me, saying, ⁵"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."* ⁶"Ah, Sovereign LORD," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am only a child." ⁷But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you." ⁸"Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the LORD. (Jeremiah 1:4-8, NIV)

Write down the most recent example when you said, "This is not good. It will be bad." Was it really? How did it end up?

"I am the man who has seen affliction by the rod of his wrath... he has broken my teeth with gravel; he has trampled me in the dust... I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." (Lamentations 3, selected verses)

Jeremiah lost everything except the Lord's great _____,

therefore he had _____.

Notes _____

1. God will give me _____ in life.

Review the promises God gave Jeremiah in his call that all would work out for good:

⁴ *The word of the LORD came to me, saying, ⁵"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you...*

...before you were born I set you apart...

Set apart = make _____, set apart for special work

I appointed you as a prophet to the nations...

⁸*"Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the LORD.*

1. God wants me to _____ in his promises.

The same four truths apply to Jesus:

- The Father **knew** him. He was with God from eternity (John 1)
- The Father **set him apart**. At his baptism the Father said, "Listen to him." The Spirit anointed him with power.
- The Father **gave** him. "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him will not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16, NIV)
- The Father **rescued** him. He rose from the dead. He lives.

2. Jesus proved that God's promises are _____ and _____.

These same four truths apply to us as well:

- God _____ me, even in my sin and rebellion.
- God _____ me apart. He _____ me.
- He _____ me to the world.
- He will _____ me.

3. God's promises are still _____ for me today.

My next steps in the "Cross-Walk":

- Read and meditate on **Romans Chapter Eight**.
- Let your crosses **lead you to Jesus'** cross where he won for us.
- Let it **shine** in your life that God rescues you!