

God's Plans and My Life
Jeremiah 29:1-14

BACKGROUND TO THE PASSAGE: MY LIFE IN CAPTIVITY

THREE REASONS FOR THE CAPTIVITY

1. To eradicate idolatry
2. To evangelize effectively
3. To restore the land physically

Who or what is keeping my life captive? Who or what is keeping me from achieving my potential?

APPLICATION OF THE PASSAGE: WHO SHOULD LEAD MY LIFE?

Don't listen to what other people say about my life.

"For this is what the Lord of Hosts, the God of Israel, says: "Don't let your prophets who are among you and your diviners deceive you, and don't listen to the dreams you elicit from them, for they are prophesying falsely to you in My name. I have not sent them." This is the Lord's declaration." (Jeremiah 29:8-9, HCSB)

Take time to listen to what God says about my life.

God has plans for me.

"For I know the plans I have for you" —this is the Lord's declaration— "plans for your welfare, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11, HCSB)

"We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God: those who are called according to His purpose." (Romans 8:28, HCSB)

"Indeed, the Lord God does nothing without revealing His counsel to His servants the prophets." (Amos 3:7, HCSB)

God expects me to pray and seek Him.

"You will call to Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart." (Jeremiah 29:12-13, HCSB)

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you." (Matthew 6:33, HCSB)

"Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, sinners, and purify your hearts, double-minded people!" (James 4:8, HCSB)

Who or what is keeping me from listening to what God says about my life? How can I take time to listen to what God wants me to do?