

Daily Devotional, October 2, 2020 The Master Planner

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:11-13 (NIV)

It would seem rather fitting that Jesus was a carpenter while spending His time on Earth. I suppose my reasoning is because I enjoy working with wood and I appreciate the skills of those who are much more accomplished than I. And Jesus in all things was always a skilled craftsman. In fact, being part of the Godhead, He has been the maker of every single greatest masterpiece that has ever been made.

Jesus is the one behind all the masterpieces that are so wonderful and amazing that we don't dare put them on the same lists as the great achievements of us mere humans—masterpieces that He and the Father have accomplished, such as the Great Barrier Reef, the Amazon rainforest, the galaxies of the universe, and most of all, possibly the greatest achievement—His crafting of the human soul.

What has mankind made that can compare to the works of God? The Sistine Chapel? Sorry, but God actually made the people and angels that Michelangelo painted on that ceiling—oh, and He made Michelangelo, too! The Golden Gate Bridge? Well, what might seem to be a great human accomplishment, could never have seen its fruition if not for God making all the parts that went into it, not to mention those who designed and built it.

No matter, what man has made, God is only glorified that much more because none of it would have happened without God standing somewhere behind the scenes making it all possible.

I think it's not to be presumed that this is a competition. And how sad for us if we start trying to compare things like this and miss the point of it all, which is that, amidst all the distractions of the things mankind has created, we, you and me, are God's crowning creation.

Yet what happens ever so often, is we become enamored with what we think we can build for ourselves in our lives instead of relying on our Creator, the Great Architect who crafted the original blueprints for our lives. God understands the design, the purpose, the abilities, and the potential that each of us has. And God has blended all of those together into an incredible set of magnificent plans that no one else could have ever imagined.

And just what are God's plans for? The book of Jeremiah tell us—His plans are for peace and not for evil, plans for hope and a future. Now, I'm sure that all of us today desire these things in our lives, yet if we pursue them according to our own designs, we will fall far short of them. It is only when we let God be the Great Designer of our lives, that we will find these things we so deeply desire.

Prayer: Lord God, Thank You for reminding me that You really have good thoughts and plans for me and that I can trust You to make more of my life than I ever could! Please come and have Your way in me today! In Christ's name. Amen.