

## Daily Devotional, November 24, 2020 Plan A

***11 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. 12 Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. 13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:11-13 (NIV)***

It seems fitting to me that the trade God had planned for Jesus when He was on Earth was that of a carpenter. I say that because Jesus, who existed from the very beginning, has always been a craftsman. In fact, as part of the Godhead, He has been the maker of every single greatest masterpiece that has ever been made.

As such, Jesus as part of the incarnate God is behind all the masterpieces that are so wonderful and amazing that we don't even put them on the same lists as the great achievements of man-made masterpieces. He is responsible for wonders such as the Great Barrier Reef, the Amazon rainforest, the galaxies of the universe, and most of all, the crowning achievement of His craft-mankind and 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 depicted on that ceiling-oh, and He made Michelangelo, too. The Willis (Sears) Tower? Well, God made all the components that inevitably went into it, not to mention the architects and designers who planned and built it.

It doesn't matter, whatever you come up with that man has made, it only serves to glorify God that much more, because none of it would have happened without God's intervention somewhere behind the scenes making it possible.

But it's not like 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, each one of us are God's crowning creation and achievement.

Yet, as it often happens, we become enthralled with what we think we can build for ourselves in our lives instead of relying on our Creator, the Great Architect who holds on yet, to 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 crafted all of those together into an incredible set of magnificent plans.

And what are God's plans for? Our verses today tell us-God's 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 who God is—the Great Designer of our lives—will we 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 out of my life than I ever could! Please come and have Your way in me today. In Christ's name Amen.***