



Sermon Notes

Season of Healing
November 26, 2023

We stand on what we believe to be true.

John 17:17

¹⁷ Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

Jeremiah 29:11

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."

God has plans for me.

He is fully aware of those plans.

Do you believe life is a kind of test?

Do you believe that if you fail, you will be punished?

Do you believe we are human creatures being punished by an avenging god?

We often live with a dichotomy: What we want to believe vs. what we really believe.

Our actions and reactions tell the true story of what we believe.

Romans 8:1-2

¹ Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

Jesus was condemned so we would never feel condemned.

Jesus was forsaken so we would never feel forsaken.

Jesus died so we can live forever!

Jesus was beaten so we would never have to be beaten again by our struggle!

The word for 'thoughts' in the Hebrew means *purposeful meditation, intentions, skillful works; to think, to plan, to devise.*

Psalms 92:5

*⁵ How great are your works, O LORD,
how profound your thoughts!*



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Ephesians 2:10

¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works...

The word 'workmanship' comes from the Greek word 'poiema' signifying a work of art created by an artisan. In English, we get the words poem and poetry from this word.

We are God's poem.

Do you believe we are trapped in some kind of tragic place out of which we have to earn our way by doing the "right" things?

Isaiah 49:14-16

*¹⁴ But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me,
the Lord has forgotten me."*

*¹⁵ "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast
and have no compassion on the child she has borne?
Though she may forget,
I will not forget you!*

*¹⁶ See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands;
your walls are ever before me.*

Do you believe life is out to get you?

Do you believe God is out to get you?

Romans 8:28

²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

We will believe the promise of God when we know the God of the promise!

2 Timothy 1:12

¹² ...I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

