

POEMA – GOD’S MASTERPIECE

APRIL 19, 2020

I. Intro

- 1) 20 years ago...
 - a. Season of great difficulty, darkness that became a defining moment.
 - b. Overwhelmed by the immediate—couldn’t see beyond the moment.
 - c. There is no God like our God who declares the end from the beginning. (Isa. 46:9-10)
- 2) How often do we get stuck in our ‘moment’ unable to see beyond it?

II. Key Passage:

“For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.” -Ephesians 2:10 NLT

- 1) Poema — Greek word for ‘poem’
- 2) You are God’s message—you have significance.
- 3) You were made on purpose for a purpose.
- 4) Your life may feel like a random collection of events without meaning and without purpose but in God’s hands it can become a masterpiece!

III. Three Truth’s From Ephesian 2:10

- 1) EVERYTHING HAS MEANING—my past failures and my present pain “works together’ for my good.
 - a. *And we know that **God causes everything to work together** for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.” - Romans 8:28 NLT*
 - b. Every season
 - c. Every trial
 - d. Every test...is just one more brushstroke of the artist upon the canvas of my life.
 - e. Ecclesiastes 3:11 says, “*God makes **ALL THINGS** beautiful in their time.*”

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f. It may not make sense in the moment but as I surrender to his loving touch and trust the one who has called me according to His own purpose, then this too shall work out for my good.

2) I HAVE WHAT IT TAKES—if God has prepared it for me, then He’s prepared me for it.

a. If God brought me to it, He’ll bring me through it!

b. The need for confidence.

c. Confidence - *the feeling or belief that one can rely on someone or something; firm trust; the state of feeling certain about the truth of something.*

d. Paul’s confession from a Roman Prison

1. *“I eagerly **expect and hope** that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage **so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body**, whether by life or by death.” -Philippians 1:20 NIV*

2. *“being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” -Philippians 1:6 NIV*

3. *“So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. - Hebrew 10:35 (quote this only NOT ON SCREEN)*

4. *“So do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord. Remember the great reward it brings you! Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God’s will. Then you will receive all that he has promised.” -Hebrews 10:35-36 NLT*

3) THERE IS MORE—God’s promise, not my past, determines my future.

a. *Story of Joseph – from a son to a slave, prisoner to a prince...doesn’t make sense...nothing lined up...but God!!!*

b. **NEED TO KNOW YOUR PROMISE!!!**

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c. *“I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us. -Philippians 3:13-14 NLT*

d. Imagination vs. memory = two functions of our mind

1. “Neuroimaging has shown that as we age, the center of cognitive gravity tends to shift from the imaginative right brain to the logical left brain...most of us stop living out of imagination and start living out of memory. Instead of creating the future we start repeating the past.” - Mark Batterson *The Circle Maker*

2. Faith is the victory that overcomes the world (our circumstance)

3. Faith is the substance of things HOPED for...if you don’t know what you want, how can you hope for it?

4. Quote: “Most of us don’t get what we want because we don’t know what we want.” -Mark Batterson

5. Language of the Holy Spirit = dreams and visions

e. *“That is what the Scriptures mean when they say, “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him.” -1 Corinthians 2:9 NLT*

f. *“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.” -Jeremiah 29:11 NLT*

IV. Conclusion

- 1) Don’t let your past determine who you are and what you’re capable of doing. You’re GOD’S masterpiece. He’s working in you and for you.

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- 2) You have a choice right now—believe the report of your present or the report of your promise.
- 3) Will you live from memory or imagination?
- 4) Have faith. GOD is making a masterpiece and you’re it. Trust Him.
- 5) This moment is not here to kill you its here to make you.
- 6) Rise up man of God. Rise up woman of God. Take courage and stand in faith. ALL things are working together for your good.
- 7) Paul concluded his remarks with a very famous phrase, “What shall we say to these things...”
- 8) What are you going to say to this moment?
- 9) Why not declare that God has MORE than meets the eye IN you and FOR you!!!
- 10) *“Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.” -Ephesians 3:20 NLT*