

Asking The Lord

“God has a plan for my life”

Exciting / comforting to think
He instructs us *personally*

- Jer.29:11, ‘...*My plans for you*’ –
 - Blank check?
 - Context:

4: captives, Babylon

10: Babylon, 70 yrs.

7: pray for captors

14: false prophets

8-9: false prophets

15ff: sword, famine...

“God has a plan for my life”

- Young woman: ‘I often asked the Lord where my energy, enthusiasm, dedication, hard work, and spirit would be the most beneficial in reaching a great many people, and he pointed the way...’

It is good to depend upon God – Jer.10:23

“God has a plan for my life”

- Young woman: ‘I often asked the Lord where my energy, enthusiasm, dedication, hard work, and spirit would be the most beneficial in reaching a great many people, and he pointed the way...’
- Lord answers prayers of His children . . .

“For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; **But** the face of the Lord is against those who do evil” – 1 Pt.3:12

We should want to know
“what God says to us.”

Sadly, the search often results in
self-deception ... the Bible says so.

I. Some Seekers Already
Know What They Will Do

Jer.42:1 – 43:3

1: cf. 41:17.

2-3: not spiritual guidance, but agreement.

4-6: mere agreement requires no faith, no sacrifice, no obedience.

7...20-22: self-delusion.

a. Miscalculated; thought God would agree

b. Jer.17:9. Pr.28:26

43:1-3: *our* God would not send this message

– Jer.12:1

Mark 10:17-22

17: all the right stuff.

18: many use 'good' loosely...

If He is truly 'good' He is God.
If He is not God, He is not good.

19: Jesus offers nothing new / tailored.

20: how many times has he read commands?

21: first commandment proved him wrong.

Ex.20:3. Mt.6:24.

22: sad (*intense dismay; shocked, appalled*).

Mark 10:17-22

Correct way to ask: Mt.26:39

Ask with an obedient heart.

John 7:17,
whoever wills...

John 3:21,
does the truth...

One can study the Bible with a spirit of disobedience.

I. Some Seekers Already
Know What They Will Do

II. Some Seek A
Subjective Experience

Acts 26:9-11, Saul

1. 9-10, confused will of self with will of God; disobeyed.
2. 11, filled with such anger that one appears to be mad, *enraged, infuriated...*
 - Correct way to ask: with respect for objective revelation.
 - Emotions follow obedience to revelation.
Ac.8:...39.

I. Some Seekers Already
Know What They Will Do

II. Some Seek A
Subjective Experience

**III. Some Seek Signs
Based On False Faith**

Mk.16:15-16

Some assume 'faith' excludes baptism.

Mark 16:17-18

Some assume 'faith' includes miracles
for us today.

- **Punkin' Brown**
- Ac.28, not intentional, but 'no harm'
- Miraculous signs confined to first Century. Cf. Ex.3-4

Mk.16:17-18

Snake handling: about 1910.

- Punkin Brown: age 34...
- Questions...
 1. Why did he suffer and die? (Ac.28)
 2. Someone in congregation called 911.
(Mk.16:18)
 3. Once dead, why not raise him?
(Mt.10:8)

Correct way: do not put God to the test.

- Mt.4:6-7
- Spiritual application: Mt.6:13.
- Do not pray for safety and flirt with danger.
1 Co.10:9.

“God has a plan for my life”

- Young woman: ‘I often asked the Lord where my energy, enthusiasm, dedication, hard work, and spirit would be the most beneficial in reaching a great many people, and he pointed the way . . . to the Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders . . . and I followed.’