

27 December 2014

THE BEST IS YET TO COME

Jeremiah 29:11

As we step into 2015, I believe this is what the LORD has for us. The prediction and the fact may be the global economy is gloomy. But the truth is **“The Best Is Yet to Come.”** Why? Because the God who knows and serves is sovereign and He is good. And He gave us His promise in Jeremiah 29:11.

We see the promise is given in the context of God's judgment upon Judah's disobedience in the form of seventy-year captivity in Babylon. In the midst of Jeremiah steps into the scene and declares *Jeremiah 29:11* *“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.”*

1. *“For I know...”* The word “know” is the Hebrew word “yada”. This word is used to describe intimacy and proclaim God's complete knowledge of us (Genesis 4: 1; Psalm 139:1)
Corrie Ten Boom: “Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.”
2. *“For I know the plans I have for you” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you...”* The word “prosper” is “shalom”. It goes beyond “peace” to include “completeness in number, safety and soundness in health, wholeness in being, prosperity and total well-being.” This word “shalom” is rooted more in relationship with God than physical possessions. So, turn your heart back to the LORD - because He is the anchor of everything else.

The final part of this promise is that God's plans are to give us “hope and a future” or a “hopeful future”. The NIV translated it as “future”. It is the Hebrew word “*akhareth*” which comes

from the root word “*akhar*” which means “afterward, backwards or after part”.

How can we be moving into the future by focusing the back? It is like the word picture of a group of men rowing with their backs to the finishing line. All of us are moving into our future with our back to the future; that is, by taking reference from the past – the starting point. We can base our trust in the Lord Jesus Christ because of our history with Him; everything you and I have experienced in Him. (Psalm 103:1-3)

Today, you can walk with your back to the future and trust in the LORD – the God who was, who is and who is to come. Remember,

*Our history with God yesterday
and our walk with God today;
tutor us to trust Him totally for tomorrow!*