

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!*