

The Kingdom & Destiny

Key Verse

Ephesians 3:20 -Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, (NIV)

Opening Questions

What comes to mind when you hear the word destiny?

Exploring the Bible

Stepping into your destiny is a process. It doesn't happen all at once. While God wants us walking in our destiny, He wants to make sure that we bring glory to Him and don't destroy ourselves in the process. That is why there is preparation, testing, and assignment. Let's look at this process in the life of David, the King of Israel.

I. David's Future

Read *1 Samuel 16:1-13*

Question: What happens to David?

Answer:

David receives his assignment here. He knows what he is going to do with his life. But he doesn't get to wear the crown just yet nor does he know the full extent of his destiny. All he knows is that he has been secretly anointed as the new king of Israel while the present king of Israel is still alive.

II. David's Preparation as a Warrior

Read *1 Samuel 18:1-9*

Question: What position does David achieve in King Saul's army?

Answer:

Question: What kind of success is attributed to David and what kind of success is attributed to King Saul?

Answer:

David is operating in the power of his anointing and because of that he is being very successful on the battlefield serving his country and his king. But his success doesn't make the path to his destiny any easier. In fact, it makes the king he serves jealous.

III. David's Test

Read *1 Samuel 24*

Question: What is King Saul trying to do to David?

Answer:

Question: What does David do when he has a chance to kill King Saul?

Answer:

This was David's test. God wanted to see if David would trust God to remove the man He had anointed as king before David or if he would take matters into his own hands. Many times, God's test is not obvious until after it is over. God wants make sure our hearts are ready for the assignment. You can't cheat on God's tests. The only way to pass His tests is to stay close to the Lord. In the book of Psalms, there are many that are written by David. A number of them were written while he was running for his life. He knew and worshipped God even while running for his life. When the test came, he was able to pass it.

IV. David's Assignment

Read *2 Samuel 5:1-4*

Question: What do all the tribes of Israel do to David?

Answer:

Question: How old was David when he became king?

Answer:

King Saul and his sons were dead. There has been a long civil war between the remaining descendants of Saul and David. Now the whole country was ready to make David their king. Once he is king, David begins to carry out the assignment of being king over Israel. For David, the assignment was to defeat Israel's enemies and bring peace and prosperity to the kingdom.

V. David Completes the Assignment

Read *1 Chronicles 22:14-19*

Question: What kind of wealth was David able to provide for building the temple?

Answer:

Question: What had the Lord done with the enemies of Israel (verse 18)?

Answer:

Because of his early military training and **because he looked to God as his great military strategist**, David is successful in his assignment. He brings peace to the kingdom and amasses great wealth. David not only prospered, but all the people were prospering. Later, when David's son Solomon became king, it says that silver in Jerusalem was essentially worthless because it was as plentiful as dirt. But there is more to David's assignment and destiny than just this.

VI. David's Full Destiny Revealed

Read *1 Chronicles 17:1-15*

Question: How long will David's dynasty last?

Answer:

David's ultimate destiny as king of Israel was to have a dynasty that would last forever. Jesus eventually is born into this world as a descendant of David. Jesus establishes the Kingdom of God on this earth, a kingdom which will last forever. As citizens of that Kingdom, we are a living legacy of King David's ultimate destiny.

Practical Exercise

How do you begin thinking about destiny, preparation, and assignments in the Kingdom of God? One way to is to answer this question:

If money, time, and other commitments were not an issue what is the one thing you would do with your life?

Many times the answer to that question is the key to your assignment and destiny. Take a few minutes to think about that answer to that question and write it down.

What if nothing specific comes to mind. Then ask yourself this question:

As I think about the various things that I have seen and experienced in my life to this point, what thing has concerned me or burdened me to the point where I want to see it changed?

The answer to this question may be an indication of direction and destiny for your life. You can take this issue and begin to pray about it and see what God shows you.