

Vision - When My Life Intersects With God's Purpose

Isa 46:9-11 ESV remember the former things of old; for **I am God**, and there is no other; **I am God**, and there is none like me, 10 **declaring the end from the beginning** and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, **'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,'** 11 calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of my counsel from a far country. I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; **I have purposed, and I will do it.**

- There is no one like God
- He declares the end from the beginning
- His counsel shall stand
- He has a purpose and he will accomplish it
- He can use anything and anyone (a bird, a man from a far country)
- I have purpose "I WILL DO IT" - in the end the bird or the man are inconsequential

Here the LORD is declaring the END from the BEGINNING

- Gen 15:13 ESV Then the LORD said to Abram, "Know for certain that your **offspring will be sojourners** in a land that is not theirs and will be **servants there**, and they will be **afflicted for four hundred years**.
 - He is talking about something that will happen in the future
 - He is talking about when the children of Israel would be servants in Egypt
 - But there was a set length of time and a specific end...(this is God's purpose that he called out to Abram)

The Lord Watches Over Our Lives for His Purpose

There was a mandate to kill the male children

- Exo 1:22 ESV Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "**Every son** that is born to the Hebrews **you shall cast into the Nile**, but you shall let every daughter live."

Yet God spared Moses (WHY?) - God was to use Moses to fulfill HIS PURPOSE

- Exo 2:1-4 ESV Now a man from the house of Levi went and took as his wife a Levite woman. 2 **The woman conceived and bore a son**, and when she saw that he was a fine child, **she hid him** three months. 3 When she could hide him no longer, she took for him a basket made of bulrushes and daubed it with bitumen and pitch. **She put the child in it and placed it among the reeds by the river bank.** 4 And his sister stood at a distance to know what would be done to him.

The LORD intervenes or uses man's choices for his purpose

- 5-10 Now **the daughter of Pharaoh** came down to bathe at the river, while her **young women walked beside the river**. She **saw the basket** among the reeds and sent her servant woman, and she took it. 6 When she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby was crying. **She took pity on him and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children."** 7 Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" 8 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go." So **the girl went and called the child's mother.** 9 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child away and nurse him for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took

the child and nursed him. 10 When the child grew older, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, "Because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

- A life is spared
- His own mother was able to nurse him
- She possibly spoke to him about the plight of the Israelites - and who he really was
- Perhaps it is the reason he grew up and had a burden to see them set free
 - All this was the design and purpose of God unfolding in a simple life

Our Failure Does Not Thwart the Purpose of God

Exo 2:11-15 ESV One day, when Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and looked on their burdens, and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his people. 12 He looked this way and that, and seeing no one, **he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.** 13 When he went out the next day, behold, two Hebrews were struggling together. And he said to the man in the wrong, "Why do you strike your companion?" 14 He answered, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" **Then Moses was afraid**, and thought, "Surely the thing is known." 15 When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses. But **Moses fled from Pharaoh and stayed in the land of Midian.** And he sat down by a well.

- Acts 7:23 says he was forty years at this time
- Ex 7:7 says he was eighty years old when he went to speak to Pharaoh
- He spent 40 years in exile in Midian -- **"my life was wasted he might think"**

The forty years was not wasted - it's about (timing 400 yrs) and (Moses' heart)

- Exo 3:7-12 ESV God met Moses at the burning bush ----- 7 Then the LORD said, "**I have surely seen the affliction** of my people who are in Egypt and **have heard their cry** because of their taskmasters. **I know their sufferings**, 8 and **I have come down to deliver them** out of the hand of the Egyptians and **to bring them up** out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. 9 And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and **I have also seen the oppression** with which the Egyptians oppress them. 10 **Come, I will send you** to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." 11 But Moses said to God, "**Who am I** that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" 12 ESV He said, "**But I will be with you**, and this shall be the sign for you, that **I have sent you**: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."
 - I have seen and heard
 - I have come down to deliver them
 - I WILL SEND YOU
 - This is where the purpose of God intersects with our lives
 - Moses is NOT going to stand in his own strength this time around
 - WHO WE ARE IS NOT AS IMPORTANT AS WHO WILL BE WITH US AND WHO IS SENDING US

"I don't feel equipped" - He uses what is in our hand

- Exo 4:1-5 ESV Then Moses answered, "But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, 'The LORD did not appear to you.'" 2 The LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A staff." 3 And he said, "Throw it on the ground." So he threw it on the ground, and it became

a serpent, and Moses ran from it. 4 But the LORD said to Moses, "Put out your hand and catch it by the tail"--so he put out his hand and caught it, and it became a staff in his hand-- 5 "that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you."

- **David killed Goliath with the tools of a shepherd** (a sling and a stone) - not the armor of Saul

Our Weaknesses Are No Excuse – Because He Empowers Those He Calls

- Exo 4:10-17 ESV But Moses said to the LORD, "Oh, my Lord, **I am not eloquent**, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but **I am slow of speech and of tongue.**" 11 Then the LORD said to him, "**Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? 12 Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak.**" 13 But he said, "Oh, my Lord, **please send someone else.**" 14 Then **the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses** and he said, "Is there not Aaron, your brother, the Levite? I know that he can speak well. Behold, he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. 15 **You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach you both what to do.** 16 He shall speak for you to the people, and he shall be your mouth, and you shall be as God to him. 17 And take in your hand this staff, with which you shall do the signs."

I am not eloquent

- The LORD said I WILL BE YOUR MOUTH AND TEACH YOU what you shall speak

Please send someone else

- The LORD became angry and sent Aaron

Summary

1. God had a plan (that involved a timeline for Israel) - 400 years
2. God chose Moses - chosen before he was in his mother's womb - to be the deliverer
3. Moses is born -- 80 years before the 400 years
4. God intervenes and spares him, gives him every opportunity to HEAR and be MOVED (like Nehemiah)
5. He begins to bear the same burden as the LORD - He stepped out on his own strength
6. All in the LORD's timing - he sent Moses....
 - a. A man of failure
 - b. A man of insecurity
 - c. But a MAN CHOSEN