

Our Destiny Is Our Choice

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Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."

I want to share a wild idea with you . . . about God. We have learned from others that the nature of God is one of Omnipresence – that God is everywhere, at all times. God is also Omnipotent, meaning God has power over all things; His power is Infinite and limitless. We also know God to be Omniscient – He is all-knowing in that He is aware of the past, the present, and the future.

Now, while I can spout these words and their definitions, I can also tell you that my human mind cannot grasp the full meaning or magnitude of any of those qualities. Let us take omniscience as an example. So, God is all knowing; God knows everything in the past, the future, and what is happening right now.

I have stated in the past that if things are true, they must be true scientifically and spiritually – in the mind of Man and the mind of God. Science, at least up until Quantum Theory, has wanted to label things and put them in little boxes. If something cannot be explained, documented, assessed, and measured by standard scientific protocol and procedure then it is hooey, baloney, hocus pocus. Any spiritual explanation for things of the Universe is summarily dismissed and ridiculed.

The problem with the scientific approach is that it is limited by the perspective of the human mind. Einstein threw a wrench into the scientific perspective. Everything exists in the present moment, and this is something scientists struggle to understand. Quantum Physics has proved that time does not exist. Things can be closer or further to us in time, just as things are closer or further in space, But the idea that time moves past us is as incorrect as the idea that space moves past us.

According to Einstein's Special Theory of Relativity, two events that are both "now" to you will happen at different times for anyone moving at another speed, Specific events cannot be agreed upon. Other people will see a different "now" that might, or might not, contain elements of yours. Past and future are no more physically distinguishable than right or left. The present moment does not exist in them, and therefore neither does the flow of time, Einstein's theories of relativity suggest not only that there is no single special present but also that all moments are equally real.

OK, so what has that got to do with anything, Patrick? Well, it begins to explain God's nature of Omniscience. God can see every 'now' moment simultaneously. He can see every moment of our lives before and after we are born and after we have leave our bodies. He can see every conceivable choice we make, error we commit, every false step, every effort, and all the infinite results from every thought we have.

This is consciousness. Consciousness is the formless, invisible energy field of infinite dimension and potentiality, the underlying substance of existence. Consciousness is independent of time,

space, or location, yet all-inclusive and all present. It encompasses all existence beyond all limitation, dimension, or time, and registers all events, no matter how seemingly miniscule, such as even a fleeting thought. This is the Mind of God: beyond time, beyond measure, beyond science, and unlimited. Pretty wild to me.

We tend to look at God and judge and describe God through the eyes and mind of humankind, but we are always miscalculating because we make Him in our image. Although science is catching up, they are still far behind being able to grasp what God really is.

One thing we know is that this great Mind of God has created a destiny for us; we have a purpose and a plan that God has created for us, each of us individually, Through the infinite amount of choices and steps and thoughts and actions we could take, there is a perfect path for us a plan. Life isn't an accident. Psalm 139: 16 states: *“All the days planned for me were written in your book before I was one day old”* God knows everything that will happen to us in our lives; He sees all the infinite possibilities. There are no surprises for God.

Before we were born we were wired through the DNA contributions of our ancestors with particular ambitions, desires, and drives to play a specific role in life one that only we can play. Before we inhabited these bodies, God arranged for us a unique mixture of spiritual gifts, passions, abilities, personality, and experiences. There's no one like us in the entire universe because, in part, there's no one with our unique mix of talents. It's why our destiny is so unique, It's our very own destiny; not our mother's, or father's, It's our destiny.

But we can mess it up; we can totally miss God's perfect plans for us, By the choices we make, we can miss God's destiny. If we chase the world — popularity, money, and other hedonistic desires instead of God, we could miss God's right and perfect plans for us.

Not everything that transpires is God's perfect will for us. We have a say in what happens. We have free will; we make choices, and we don't always choose God's will. We choose our own will. If I get drunk and drive off a cliff, that is not God's will for me. That is a result of my will, my stupid choices. Although God has a plan for us, He will not force us to comply.

But He will continue to give us opportunities to respond to His plans, God knows all the potential choices we can make and all the possible results. Even despite crazy random happenings and the lousy decisions we make, He is "making all things work together for our good."

For instance, the result of one dumb decision moves us into despair where we suffer for a while. We meet someone who gives us a book and the message of that book brings us to a new awareness. So, we change jobs, move to a new town, meet someone who we fall in love with. We go to a new church and learn a new aspect of God, so we release the old and embrace the new, and we are finally transformed and back on the path.

Psalms 37:23-24 teaches: *When a person's steps follow the Lord, God is pleased with his ways. If he stumbles, he will not fall, because the Lord holds his hand.*

God sees all the possibilities simultaneously, sees all the "nows" that are possible and whispers guidance into our hearts.

Julian Barbour, a British physicist, simply claims "There is no such thing as time." In Barbour's view, it is change that provides the illusion of time, Barbour sees each individual moment, each "now" as a whole complete and existing in its own right.

According to Barbour there is no past moment that flows into a future moment. Instead all the different possible configurations of the universe, every possible location of every atom throughout all of creation, exist simultaneously.

The illusion of the past exists because each Now contains objects that appear from stable structures as "records". He says, "The only evidence you have of last week is your memory, But memory comes from a stable structure of neurons in your brain now. The only evidence we have of the Earth's past is rocks and fossils, But these are just stable structures in the form of an arrangement of minerals we examine in the present. The point is, all we have are these records and you only have them in this Now."

This idea of timeless consciousness begins to explain the concept of God's omniscience. We have a destiny that God whispers into our hearts now. We cannot know or hear God in the past or future; it is only now. We respond by either choosing in this moment to proceed according to God's will, or not. If we do, another moment unfolds, another choice.

If we do not choose to follow God's will, another moment unfolds accompanied by another choice, and so on. Our destiny is our choice and it is forged through our willingness. God will always

arrange for life to provide a continuous flow of opportunities and open doors from which to choose and fulfill our destiny.

Ultimately, we already have all that we need to become what God needs us to be to receive God's highest good for us; we just need to make the right decisions. Just as an acorn contains the imprint of its destiny to become a mighty oak tree, we contain the imprint of our sacred heritage. We just need to be aware and then willing, and then choose to open our hearts and minds in this moment and be ready to discover and fulfill our divine potential.

We've heard stories of lost pets traveling hundreds of miles to find their owners. These animals had no road map to guide them along their way. So how did they accomplish such a feat? The answer is simple: love. God created all life with love and created all life with the ability to love. These pets were reaching out with a burning hopeful desire to be with the people they loved.

Through the love of God, we have access to this inner guidance through prayer and meditation. With God's Love and our willingness as our beacons, we can find our way to our destiny: the joyful realization of God's plans for us. Psalm 16:1 1 says: "You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy."

My prayer is that we develop the wisdom to not just seek our destiny, but to seek God first, and allow our destiny to be revealed.

Let us pray...