

## Discovering Your Child's Destiny

### Introduction:

- John Wesley's father, Samuel, was a dedicated pastor, but there were those in his parish who did not like him. On February 9, 1709, a fire broke out in the rectory at Epworth, possibly set by one of the rector's enemies. Young John, not yet six years old, was stranded on an upper floor of the building. Two neighbors rescued the lad just seconds before the roof crashed in. One neighbor stood on the other's shoulders and pulled young John through the window. Samuel Wesley said, "Come, neighbors, let us kneel down. Let us give thanks to God. He has given me all my eight children. Let the house go. I am rich enough." John Wesley often referred to himself as a "brand plucked out of the fire" (Zechariah 3:2; Amos 4:11). In later years, he often noted February 9 in his journal and gave thanks to God for His mercy. Samuel Wesley labored for 40 years at Epworth and saw very little fruit; but consider what his family accomplished! W. Wiersbe, *Wycliffe Handbook of Preaching and Preachers*, Moody Press, 1984, p. 251.
- Italian proverb: Once the game is over the King and pawn go back to the same box.
- I want to talk about destiny this morning. I want to discuss the destiny of children and particularly the destiny of your child.
  - Perhaps one of the greatest challenges we face as that of parents is discovering the destiny and purpose for our children.
  - To help you discern and find your child's destiny I want to give you four questions that you will need to answer: 1. What is God's purpose for Godly seed? 2. What is the intention of God for this specific child? 3. What is my role as a parent? 4. Does God still bless through generational blessing?

### I. What is God's Purpose For Godly Seed?

- A. Children are not just the fruit of marriage. They are the result of the prophetic/eternal nature of God that we spoke of last week. Children are the seed of humanity. They carry within them the eternal plan of God (reproduce after your own kind). They have been uniquely marked for their generation and lifetime. They are a generational link in the long-term plan of God. Think about that in terms of your own life for a moment. "You are a generational link in the long range plan of God."
1. God's eternal purpose for marriage is: 1. To reflect the covenantal relationship of Christ and the church. 2. To bring into this life godly seed who will fulfill His purposes in the generations to come. The secret to the seed is God and his purposes.
  2. When we understand that God works only according to His eternal purposes we stand in awe of that which is regarded as God's heritage!
    - a) When God speaks a word, its mission is empowered, its mission is given longevity and it is propelled into the future.
    - b) God's word is filled with prophetic intention. It is pregnant with life because it contains the hope of God.
- B. God's purpose for godly seed is to restore all things. "*And I will cause hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. He will strike (crush-NIV) your head, and you will strike (bruise - NIV) his heel.*" (Genesis 3:15, NLT)
1. Yes, this word is prophetic word concerning the Christ but it is a generational word with a promise of a future that each generation would crush the serpents head or be about the business of crushing the serpents head.
  2. God intends to see His word "become flesh" generation after generation following the leadership of His Son! That sons and daughters of God would make Him (Jesus) visible in this life.

3. Our sons and daughter walking as children of God will bring healing to many, body soul and spirit. They will function as restores who help people recover what the enemy has stolen from them.
- C. God's purpose for godly seed is to Raise Sons and Daughters of Light. Four things to consider in order to do this.
1. We must think in terms of God's eternal perspective. He is looking for us to reproduce and raise up children of promise and purpose. Children who are empowered by the prophetic nature of God actively moving in the earth. Children that are alive with God's promises on their inside.
  2. We must realize the needs of the world around us. What is the nature and needs of the world around us in which our seed/children are being sown? Fear would have us not have children; faith in God's Word/purposes causes us to think... "With godly seed I can shape a nation!"
    - a) Moses - rose to prominence in Pharaoh's house and yet managed to answer God's call as deliverer.
    - b) Samuel was God's answer to barren woman's prayer and her commitment to give him to God. He was born in a day when the priests were committing abominable things. 1 Sam 2:35 God said of Samuel, "*I will raise Me up a faithful priest.*"
    - c) Other examples: David, John the Baptist, Jesus etc
  3. We must eagerly desire seed/children of purpose.
    - a) When a husband and wife recognize God's call and purpose for children, they then begin to declare and purpose to have children that will tread upon the enemy. They eagerly desire to partner with God as part of His generational work and promises.
    - b) When you begin raising children of purpose, you start by giving them back to God.
  4. We must beware of the schemes of the enemy!
    - a) The seed bearer (man) must and the seed-receiver (woman) must recognize the battle that is taking place for the seed/child from the start of conception!
    - b) Gen 3:15 reveals that there will be terrible enmity/hatred between the seed of God and the seed of Satan. It demands the agreement of the man and woman in the place of prayer for their heritage! Your children are being born into a spiritual war that demands we fight a spiritual fight for them.
    - c) I am answering the question, "How do I find my child's destiny?" Know God's purpose for children. Secondly,

## II. What is the Intention of God For This Specific Child?

- A. Each child comes with a specific plan of God. God does not make mistakes! Before you were born God already knew who you were and had already planned an eternal plan for your life. As parents, we want to find that. "*You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.*" (Psalm 139:16, NLT) God! Give me access to that book! Let me give you some pointers:
- B. There is a divine pattern. In other words, there is a way in which God operates. Looking at God's Word and at history, we can begin to see these patterns.
  1. Often the plan for a child's life is determined by the need of the time. God matches giftings and strengths to serving a generation. "*For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep*" Acts 13:36 NKJV
  2. God works generationally. What is the "God mark" or quality that stands out in your family line from generation to generation? David's family reflects royalty. Aaron's family reflected priesthood. God set apart the tribe of Levi as ministers in His house from generation to generation. Nu 18:1-2

3. God often calls an ‘unknown’ to perform a major task for that nation. In other words, he marks many before birth with His call on their lives. Ie. David.
4. God delights in choosing people who are humble and often considered the foolish things of the world. 1 Cor 1:26-29. Ie. He regarded Mary who was of low estate. Lk 1:48. Lk 1:50 “*His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.*” Ie. Hilkiah was simply a priest from the tribe of Benjamin. We hear nothing of him after his son is born. But that son was a son of destiny! Hilkiah may be forgotten, but he will always be honored by God for raising up godly seed. The seed of promise...Jeremiah.
5. God gives gifts and abilities to our children and He anoints them and appoints them with his plan for a particular task. Our seed are created for a higher purpose than just growing up and getting a job.

### III. What Is My Role as a Parent?

- A. As parents, are we just supposed to receive God’s grace and raise our children blindly or are we co-laborers with God in this world? To what extent does God use the authority of man and the desires of parents for their children’s purpose?
- B. God has always worked closely with parents of great leaders in the past.
  1. Ie. Moses would never have lived to be deliverer if his mother had not intervened. Ex 2:2 Moses came from the tribe of Levi and a national leader was not expected to rise from a priestly tribe.
  2. Jacob blessed his children and declared a blessing over each of them. There is great power in blessing your children. The *power of speaking God’s eternal Word* over our children is one of supernatural wonder.
  3. God gives parents vision to call forth/prophesy God’s strengths in their seed/children. This insight into their child’s destiny reveals the Father heart of God as He watches over the history of men and of nations.
  4. Bathsheba strategized for her son Solomon whom David promised the throne. Her quick thinking and movements brought that promise to pass when it looked like it would be stolen by his brother Adonijah. Was it the move of a position-seeking mother or was it a call to partner with God? Both! Solomon was destined to be a generational link.
  5. Prayer - Hannah a barren woman cried out to God. Did God answer because she cried out for a child or did God answer because her cry was perfectly timed for her nation? The miracle began with a cry from a barren body but it was obvious in the song of Hannah ! Sam 2:1-10 that she saw something deeper.
  6. Protect - Joseph and Mary’s quick obedience saved Messiah’s life when they fled Bethlehem. They poured into Jesus knowing that He was the Son of God.

### IV. Does God Still Bless Through Generational Blessing? Yes!

- A. The principal of generational blessing finds its roots in God’s command to reproduce after its own kind. Therefore, the greatest force in the world is strong sense of family, love and unity, combined with God’s anointing! It is in this atmosphere that trans-generational blessing is stirred and manifested. From generation to generation! Don’t think in terms of just your little family unity. Include the generations in the process. If God thinks in terms of generations then know He will speak from the generations. Ie. Kelly and I have always sought our parents input and prayer on major decisions. I still do!
- B. The call to partner with God regarding the generations is strong once we gain some insight and step out in faith.

- C. God's word of judgment to Satan in Gen 3:15 also carried a generational word of promise to Adam and Eve. That promise has three major declarations.
1. A generational promise - Guarantee of victory as well as a word of grace.
  2. A generational responsibility. Each generation must fight for this.
  3. A generational preservation. In the bringing forth of children was the generational promise to be carried forward. The thread of heaven continues to flow through the generations.

**Conclusion:**

- To find the destiny of our children we must understand these four things.
  - One, God has a purpose for the generations.
  - Two, each child has a specific purpose in God's overall plans.
  - Three, As parents there are things that we can do to help those children reach their destiny.
  - Four, As parents we have to KNOW that God desires His blessing to move from generation to generation in our family line.
- Invitation to make Jesus Lord of your life and the foundation of the generations that you carry.
- Invitation to change the course you are on. It is easy to begin living for ourselves and forget about our children. It is better to live for God and discover His purposes for our children.