MADENEW: STUDY GUIDE

Belief: Faith For Tomorrow

Jeremiah 29:11. A study on how to believe for your future.

Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope."

A little background | In Jeremiah 29, we read the prophet sending a letter to encourage God's people Israel who are in exile. They have been driven from their former lives and were living in captivity. He tells them that while their struggle will not be over immediately, God's fixed intent is to bless them and to prosper them.

1. **For I know the plans that I have for you.**
    1. The Lord is clear on His intent and His plan for our lives.
    2. He has a clear and predetermined plan. Not a generic one, but a specific one.
    3. The plan is for each person uniquely and for the whole body of disciples as well.

2. **Declares the Lord.**
    1. The promise is from God Himself.
    2. He cannot go back on His promise. (Numbers 23:19)

3. **Plans for welfare and not for calamity.**
    1. His plan is for our provision and support.
    2. God's idea of welfare is for us to be complete and at peace.
    3. He is not planning our devastation or demise. (Psalm 91:15-16)

4. **To give you a future and a hope.**
    1. God is constantly working with our future in mind.
    2. His desire for us is to have the same hope for our lives that He has.
    3. These words were spoken to comfort those who thought that God had forgotten them.

Questions
1. How familiar are you with the story of God's people in the book of Jeremiah? Have you ever read of the struggle they faced as they lost their way and then returned to God?
2. How do you see your future? Do you see a life full of pain or do you see a life that God is giving that is full of good things and peace?
3. How much of your view of tomorrow is based upon the disappointments of the past?
4. If you do have hope for tomorrow, how do you live with that hope as a daily life-style? Are you able to encourage others?

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