

SINGLE ALLIANCE

The Principles and Benefits of Change- Finding Purpose in the Pit

I. Finding Purpose in the Pit

A. Thanks Glenna for covering last week

B. Change is inevitable.

C. Negative change is also inevitable. There will be pit moments in all our lives. Even if we are following God we at some point will find ourselves in a pit. A pit is a negative circumstance. God has not promised a life where everything goes according to the way you like it all the time. Jesus promised us that in this world we would have tribulation, but be of good cheer that He overcame the world! **[John 16:33]** He told his disciples that they would face negative circumstances so that when they came they would not be offended by them or stumble in their faith in God's goodness. **[John 16:1]** We live in a hostile environment to the ways of God. Life in God is a bed of roses, but He does not remove all the thorns! God from time to time will allow you to be placed into a pit [negative circumstance] temporarily so that His purposes might be fulfilled in and through you. We find some of God's finest servants thrown into pits and not for their own causing.

1. Joseph found himself in a pit- **[Gen. 37:24]**

2. Daniel found himself in a pit- **[Dan. 6:16]**

3. Jeremiah found himself in a pit- **[Jer. 38:6]**

4. David found himself in a pit- **[Ps. 40:2]**

D. If you will look to God you can find purpose in your pit. It can be a pit of purpose instead of a pit of despair. **THE PIT IS ONLY TEMPORARY!** It is never God's will to leave you in a pit! Your attitude however will determine how long you will be in the pit. Many have accepted the pit and now live a pit life. They have grown used to their pit. It is time to get out of the pits!

E. Joseph was placed into a pit in the wilderness. This was actually a cistern that would catch water during the rainy season. These cisterns were plentiful around the desert. Some were filled with water and some were empty. The one Joseph was thrown into was empty but it was right alongside the road to Egypt. It was because he was in this particular pit the slave traders happened to come by on their way to Egypt and to take him to his destiny.

F. God makes sure the pit you find yourself in is placed right by the road to your destiny. You need to turn your pit of despair to a pit of purpose!

1. [**Romans 8:28**]- He makes all things turn out for your good, because you love God and are called according to His purpose. God can and will use everything we face to fulfill His purpose for our life.

2. What the devil means for harm, God uses to advance you in His purpose.

G. God does not want you to stay in the pits! He has given you many promises to get out of the pit in order that He may get the glory and His purpose for your life will be accomplished. God's promises are central to the fulfilling of God's purpose for your life. His promises were given so that you could use them to fulfill your purpose. His promises are to help you get out of the pits and fulfill His purpose for you!

1. [**Isaiah 43:2**]- The rivers won't hurt you but they will be used to carry you where God wants you! The fire will purify you!

H. [**Prov. 19:21**]- God's purpose for us will not fail, even if our plans do! Our every failure is but temporary because it is God's purpose that will prevail.

I. [**Eph. 1:11**]- God works all things out to the conformity of His will. Not every thing is His will however. Many Christians are so afraid of missing God or blowing God's plan for their life! God is not fragile and neither is His plan! If you just trust Him, He will work out His purpose for you. When you fail to trust Him, He is able to work that around to fulfill His plan for you also. If you decide to quit trusting God permanently you can thwart God's purpose for you, but God still is able to accomplish His overall purpose and plan.

II. Pits are for promotions

A. Pits are the proving grounds for promotions. Pit to the palace.

B. God will place your provision beside every problem you face.

1. The pit of Joseph was right by the road to Egypt

2. Joseph was cast into the prison pit right beside the baker and butler which led to his promotion.

3. There was a tree besides the bitter water in Exodus

4. There is a thorn with every rose, but there is also a rose for every thorn! It will bloom if you water it by faith and prayer!

C. Jesus has provided redemption from your pit [**Zech 9:11**]