
The Appointed Time of Vision (Chosen for This)

God's Vision Plan

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Sermon: God's Vision Plan: The Appointed Time of Vision (Chosen for This)

Lesson Text

Jeremiah 1:4–10 (AV)⁴ Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, ⁵ Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. ⁶ Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I *am* a child. ⁷ But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I *am* a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. ⁸ Be not afraid of their faces: for I *am* with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD. ⁹ Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth. ¹⁰ See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.

John 15:15–16 (AV)¹⁵ Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. ¹⁶ Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

Introduction

Today we continue with God's Vision Plan by looking at the process of God's Timing.

- After Watching, Writing, and Running the Vision, God says something quite interesting in the 3rd verse of Habakkuk 3!
- Habakkuk 2:3 (AV)³ For the vision *is* yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

God says to Habakkuk, although you have been given the vision, it is yet for an **appointed time**. He is assured that it will be fulfilled precisely on time, not a moment too late or too early.

Although there might be intervening circumstances or occurrences that might indicate that the vision is delayed or will never happen, God assures us that in the end, it shall be fulfilled exactly when it's supposed to.

Have you ever heard the phrase, "Delayed but not Denied?" Next week we will show you how God's Vision is Never Delayed:

- Habakkuk 2: ³ ...though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.
- Habakkuk 2:(NLT)³ ... If it seems slow in coming, wait patiently, for it will surely take place. It will not be delayed.
- Vision is inevitable, and it's never late, you're just early.

But today, as we begin the study of Appointed time, we want to look at the role we play in it.

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Appointed means to be Chosen, Selected, Fixed, Prearranged, or Assigned. Whenever God sends a vision for an appointed time, he always sends a person for that appointed time to carry out the vision at that appointed time!

Just like Habakkuk, Jeremiah had to learn that God chose and sent him for the appointed time of his Vision.

Jeremiah 1: ⁵ Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, *and* I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

When it comes to the appointed time of God's Vision for our lives, we have been chosen, ordained, and promoted for this!

Series and Sermon: God's Vision Plan: The Appointed Time of Vision (Chosen for This)

“Chosen for an Appointed Time, Ordained for an Appointed Time, Promoted for an Appointed Time”

I. Chosen for an Appointed Time

John 15:16 (AV) ¹⁶ ***Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you***, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

The Appointed Time of Vision always has a Chosen Person.

To be chosen means to be preferred, elected, taken, cherry-picked, selected.

Now the rhetorical question we must ask ourselves is why were we chosen?

God doesn't need us, and yet he chooses us!

Psalm 8:4–5 (AV) ⁴ What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? ⁵ For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

Jeremiah 1:5 (AV) ⁵ Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, *and* I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

But again, why were we chosen?

Esther 4:14 (NLT) ¹⁴ If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance and relief for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die. Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?”

Yet another passage that teaches us “That” God chooses us, but not “Why” God chooses us!

It wasn't because of our qualifications; God doesn't choose the qualified, he qualifies the chosen.

It wasn't because of our intellect or intelligence; God doesn't choose the wise, but chooses the foolishness of preaching to confound the wise.

Romans 9:13–16 (AV)¹³ As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated. ¹⁴ What shall we say then? *Is there* unrighteousness with God? God forbid. ¹⁵ For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. ¹⁶ So then *it is* not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

We were chosen for this because of God's Mercy! We weren't qualified enough, we weren't smart enough, we weren't holy enough, we weren't strong enough! We just had enough Mercy.

Zechariah 4:6 (AV)⁶ ... Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

"I Was Chosen For This!"

II. Ordained for an Appointed Time (Set Apart)

John 15:16 (AV)¹⁶ **Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.**

Not only are we Chosen for the Vision, we are also Ordained for it!

So, not only did God choose a bunch of unqualified, unholy, uncouth, wrong side of the tracks people, he then Ordained us for the Vision.

To be Ordained means to Predestined, Intended, Inevitable, Set Apart, Made Holy!

Jeremiah 1: ⁷ But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I *am* a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak.

Stop saying what you can't do, what you don't have, what family you didn't come from, what gifts you don't have; God called you and then set you apart and made you Holy for his use.

Jeremiah 1:9 (AV)⁹ Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.

A lot of people are standing in line waiting on people to select them, waiting on people to accept them, waiting on people to approve them, waiting for people to approve them!

But when God calls you, you don't need the approval of people, you have the ordination of God.

You don't need people's approval when you have been predestined by God. You don't need the acceptance of people when you have the Inevitability of God.

Jeremiah 1: ⁸ Be not afraid of their faces: for I *am* with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.

"I Was Ordained For This!"

III. Promoted for an Appointed Time (Equipped)

John 15:16 (AV)¹⁶ **Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.**

- Appointed Time always accompanies a Chosen Person; “I Was Chosen For This”!
- Appointed Time always accompanies an Ordained Person; “I Was Ordained For This”!
- Appointed Time always accompanies a Promoted Person; “I Was Promoted For This”!

Then the Chosen Person becomes Ordained for it. And finally, we are Promoted into it!

The final stage of the Appointed Time of Vision is when you are promoted to go forth.

When one is Promoted, it is about being Endorsed and Elevated, but even more than that, it is about being Helped, Supported, and Equipped for the new assignment.

When God first calls us we are just babes who consumed. We consumed milk, we consumed grace and mercy, we consumed forgiveness, we consumed needing to be picked up, we consumed needing to be pampered and coddled.

But eventually we move from consumer to producer. We’re no longer just eating the fruit, we are producing it. And that’s when God promotes and equips us for the Vision.

Psalms 75:6–7 (AV)⁶ For promotion *cometh* neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. ⁷ But God *is* the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.

God doesn’t promote us for a title, he doesn’t promote us for a position, he doesn’t promote us for a raise, he doesn’t promote us for power, he doesn’t promote us for recognition; God promotes us to “Go Forth and Produce.”

Jeremiah 1:10 (AV)¹⁰ See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.

And when you are Promoted to Go Forth, God will Equip You

God will Promote and Equip you with Power: Acts 1:8 (AV)⁸ **But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**

God will Promote and Equip you with Anointing: Isaiah 10:27 (AV)²⁷ And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.

God will Promote and Equip you with Whatever You Need: John 15:¹⁶ **... that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.**

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Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: The Appointed Time of Vision (Chosen for This))

Lesson Text

- Jeremiah 1:4–10, John 15:15–16

Sermon Outline (Notes)

I. *Chosen for an Appointed Time*

II. *Ordained for an Appointed Time*

III. *Promoted for an Appointed Time*

Questions (What was your main takeaway from Sunday’s Sermon?)

I. Getting to Know “Me”

1. What is your favorite Olympic Sport? (a) gymnastics (b) track (c) swimming (d) diving (e) other
2. Which vegetable do you eat most often? (a) broccoli (b) spinach (c) collard greens (d) green beans (e) other

II. Into the Bible

1. Read John 5:1-9.
 - i. Why was this pool, which is called Bethesda, significant?
 - ii. John states this event occurred during a certain season and a certain man who had an infirmity for 38 years was there. Why was Jesus there?
 - iii. Since there were so many who were infirmed at the pool why do you think this man was chosen for a miracle?
 - iv. Although John doesn’t state how long this man was at the pool, the man’s answer to Jesus epitomizes Prov 13:12a; yet he responds to Jesus’ commands and receives a miracle. Why was his actions different from the answer he had given Jesus earlier? What does this passage mean to the believer?

III. Life Application

1. We can sometimes get weary from the time we receive the vision until the time of promotion or until the vision comes to fruition. How can we encourage ourselves to stay the course?
2. Write one powerful confession/affirmation statement that you can incorporate into your daily routine. This statement should give you the motivation to continue to move in the direction of the vision you’ve been given. Share it with your group; you just might encourage someone.