

A close-up photograph of a hand with pink nail polish pointing at an open book. The book's pages are visible, showing some text. The background is blurred.

THINK ON THESE THINGS

PHILIPPIANS 4:8

God's Plan for You

"FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU," DECLARES THE LORD, "PLANS FOR YOU TO TAKE THIS VERSE OUT OF CONTEXT AND APPLY IT TO YOURSELF INSTEAD OF ANCIENT ISRAEL."

Jeremiah 29:11-13





THE IMMEDIATE CONTEXT

- **To the Israelites Captive in Babylon** **Jer. 29:1**
 - **Begins 40 Years Earlier** **Jer. 1:1–3**
 - **Nebuchadnezzar's Invasion** **Jer. 25:1; 29:1**
 - **Captivity to be 70 Years** **Jer. 25:1–11**



THE IMMEDIATE CONTEXT

- **The Message HERE**
 - **70 Years Reiterated** **Jer. 29:10**
 - **At the End, A Return** **Jer. 29:12–14**
 - ***Because* He Had Plans for Them** **Jer. 29:11**



THE IMMEDIATE CONTEXT

- **What This is NOT About:**
 - **A Personal Promise from God to YOU**
 - **Promised Blessings to the Faithful Today**
 - **Proof God Controls Details in Our Lives**



BUT...

- **God Has Worked with Individuals**

- Abraham

Gen. 12:1–3

- Joseph

Gen. 37; 39:3–5, 23; 45:5; 50:19, 20

- Elijah

1st Kgs. 17:3, 4; 19:1–18



BUT...

- **It Was Not Just for Their Personal Benefit**
 - **Abraham** **Isa. 51:1, 2**
 - **Joseph** **Gen. 45:5; 50:19, 20**
 - **Elijah** **1st Kings 18**



BUT...

- **It is Poor Exegesis/Application**
 - **Context Must Determine** **Mark 10:21**
 - **Three Questions to Ask** **Jer. 29:11**
 - **When We Do Not...** **Jn. 16:13; 14:26; Mk. 10:29**



DOES GOD HAVE PLANS?

- **Not for Individuals**

- God Is Impartial

Acts 10:34; Rom. 2:11

- A Self-Centered Interpretation

Jer. 29:11; 1st John 5:15; Matt. 21:22



DOES GOD HAVE PLANS?

- **God's Plan**

- **Eternally Purposed**

Eph. 3:3-11

- **What Was Planned**

2nd Tim. 1:9, 10; 1st Pet. 1:20, 21



DOES GOD HAVE PLANS?

- **What God Desires for YOU:**

- **Repentance**

Acts 17:30; 2nd Pet. 3:9

- **Salvation**

1st Tim. 2:3, 4; Lk. 7:30

