

# Men of Destiny

*Text: Jn 13:-1-3; Jn 16:33-17:5*

*God has a specific purpose and plan for your life. It is your responsibility to find out what it is and align yourself with it. This is the only way to be truly **satisfied and successful**.*

## **Introduction:**

What has 9-11 done to you? It has radically changed our world.

However, our world can change without us being changed

Many people are rethinking their purpose, priority, passion.

- What does it take to fly a plane into a world trade tower?*
- What does it take to take on hijackers and bring a plane down?*
- What does it take to win?*
- What does it take to be counted?*
- What does it take to live a life of fewer regrets?*
- What does it take to be truly satisfied and successful?*

## **Exposition:**

### **John 13:1-3**

#### *Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet*

<sup>1</sup>It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love

<sup>2</sup>The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus. <sup>3</sup>Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God;

#### **Jesus knew:**

- Who He was
- Where He came from
- Why He was here and
- Where He was going
  - The most beautiful picture of death in the Scriptures – “going to the Father”

### **Jn 16:33-7:5**

<sup>33</sup>“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

#### *Jesus Prays for Himself*

17 <sup>1</sup>After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: <sup>2</sup>“Father, *the time has come*. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. <sup>3</sup>Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

- How many of us know there are two worlds? That we will have trouble but we can have triumph.
- Nothing reveals the soul like prayer.
- How many of us do things knowing that it is time cf. Jn 13:1
- Ask for a gift and then give it back to God – not use it selfishly cf. Honour, power, glory, gifts, opportunities, relationships, etc.
- How many of us go about life knowing “God has sent us”
- The best way to glorify God is to “finish the work” He gave you to do.
  - “It is finished” was not defeat - not “I am finished”, but one of victory and satisfaction, success and release (Jn 19:30)

## *Jesus was a Man of Destiny!*

### Men of Destiny are:

#### **Exposition: Men of Destiny are . . .**

(Def: Your overall circumstances or condition in life (including everything that happens to you))

1. **Deliberate** – focused effort – rifle, laser beam not shot gun approach to life - intentionality
  - i. Conscious design and purpose
  - ii. Performing with care and dignity
  - iii. Carefully thought out in advance – premeditated

*Lu 2:49 – I must be about my Father’s business*

*Jn 4:34 – My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and finish the work*

*What do you think Jesus’ personal Mission Statement was?*

2. **Dedicated** – Given over to the task at hand – No distractions
  - i. Devoted to a cause or ideal or purpose
  - ii. Set apart for a higher purpose

*Lu 12:50 – I have a baptism to be baptized with*

*Phil 2:5:8 – He became obedient unto death, even death on the cross*

*Cf. Phil 3:12-16 – “This one thing I do” – Paul*

3. **Diligent** – haste, no delay – work long, work hard, work steady
  - i. Care and perseverance in carrying out tasks
  - ii. Quietly and steadily persevering especially in detail or exactness

*Jn 9:4 – I must work the work of Him who sent me, while it is day . . .*

*Greek word SPOUDAZO = diligent cf. Tim 2:15; Tit 3:5 (11x in Gk NT)*

4. **Disciplined** – No distractions or hindrances cf. the athlete
  - i. Self-control
  - ii. Trained by instruction or practice

#### **Two kinds of discipline:**

1. Internal – self-discipline
2. External – others discipline

*Jn 8:11 – must I not drink . . .*

*- Jesus rebuked the devil, walked away, did not answer, got up early, stayed up late, etc*

*Heb 12:1-3 – Keep your eyes on Jesus. He kept His eyes on His goals*

5. **Decisive** – Committed to decision and action
  - i. Having the power to determine outcomes
  - ii. Firmness
  - iii. Unmistakable

*Lu 9:51 – Jesus resolutely set His face towards Jerusalem*

*Lu 22:39-46 - In Gethsemane He prayed “Not my will but yours. . .”*

*Being decisive does not mean that are no doubts, but that determination triumphs over doubt.*

#### **Conclusion & Application:**

- God has a specific plan and place for you.
- Are you a man with a mission and a man on a mission?
- What are your mandate, motives, message and methods?
- Do you separate the man from his message?

## *Things I need to work through . . .*

### Five Defining Questions:

1. Who am I?
2. Where did I come from?
3. Why am I here?
4. Where am I going?
5. How do I get there?

### Five Deciding Questions:

1. What am I doing that will continue after I leave? -
2. What am I doing that I will take with me when I leave? –
3. What would I do if money were not an issue? –
4. What would I do, even if money were an issue? –
5. What is there in my life that if I don't do it will never be done and what will be the consequences for leaving them undone?

### All Things Work out for Good *(Thomas Hastings)*

*All things work out for good, we know,  
This is God's great design,  
He orders all our steps below,  
For purposes divine, for purposes divine.*

*This is the faith that keeps me still,  
No matter what the test,  
And lets me glory in His will,  
For well I know 'tis best, for well I know 'tis best.*

*So now the future holds no fear,  
God guards the work begun,  
And mortals are immortal here,  
Until their work is done, until their work is done.*

*Some day the path He chose for me,  
Will all be understood,  
In heaven's clearer light I'll see,  
All things worked out for good, all things worked out for good.*