First Baptist Church of West College Hill – From the Pastor's Desk Page 1 January 1, 2017

ALL IN TO BUILD FOR OUR FUTURE

"The God of heaven Himself will prosper us: therefore we His servants will arise and build...So we built...for the people had a mind to work. A good person leaves an inheritance for their children's children..." Nehemiah 2:20; 4:6; Proverbs 13:22 (NKJV)

BCWCH Mon

This Week's Thought – January 1, 2017 HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017!

"For God has put it into their hearts to accomplish his purpose by agreeing to hand over to the beast their royal authority, until God's words are fulfilled." Revelation 17:17 (NIV)

God will accomplish His purpose. It may be with or without us, but He will execute His Will. God does not back down or hold back when it comes to the fulfillment of His wishes. He knows what is best and is bent toward carrying out His good Will. Nothing can stop God from accomplishing His purpose. War cannot stop His purpose, because He will draw people to Himself during the atrocities of war. Illness cannot stop His purpose because He will reveal His care, compassion, and sometimes healing, during the eventual breakdown of the body. Death cannot stop His purpose because God will graduate believers in Christ to heaven and nonbelievers in Christ to hell.

Sin cannot stop His purpose because Christ forgave sin by His death on the cross. Sinners cannot stop His purpose because there are consequences for wrong and, ultimately, judgment by God. Satan cannot stop God's purpose because what the devil means for evil, God can use for good. God's purpose is a freight train that travels down the tracks of obedience and disobedience, saints and sinners. Its momentum on behalf of mankind cannot be stopped. He will not be denied.

Jesus said it best: "*I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.*" (John 17:4)

So what is the purpose of God? One purpose of God is to adopt everyone into His Family who believes Jesus is His son. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16) Anyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved, and this accomplishes one of God's greater purposes.

First Baptist Church of West College Hill – From the Pastor's Desk Page 2 January 1, 2017

Are you are contributing to the greater heavenly mosaic of God's glorification? Your fulfillment of God's purpose helps others do the same. So, do not apologize. Stay laser-focused on executing God's purpose. Pray about it and seek the Scripture to better understand God's purpose for you. Equity in eternity never diminishes, so invest a lot—and invest early. His purpose will be accomplished. Find out where He is working, and join Him to fulfill His mission.

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28)

Wishing you and all those close to you a joy filled New Year of Peace, Prosperity, Perspective & Purpose!

<u>Words from the Master during your time of reflection this week</u>: "Come to Me with a teachable spirit, eager to be changed. A close walk with Me is a life of continual newness. Do not cling to old ways as you step into a new year. Instead, seek My Face with an open mind, knowing that your journey with Me involves being transformed by the renewing of your mind. As you focus your thoughts on Me, be aware that I am fully attentive to you. I know and understand you completely; My thoughts embrace you in everlasting Love. I also know the plans I have for you: plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Psalm 27:8; Romans 12:2; Jeremiah 29:11)

"And then God answered: "Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time." Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King