

“For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the LORD, ‘plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.” (Jer 29:11) We see here the heart of God for His people. He desires only the best for us and His will is that we come into the fullness of what He has planned for us before the foundation of the world. Sometimes we don’t fully understand how the Lord chooses to bring these things to pass in our lives. In Deuteronomy 8:16 we read that God, *in the wilderness*, fed Israel with manna that He might humble them and might test them, **to do good for them** in the end. God in His infinite wisdom chooses to bring us into various tests and trials to humble us and show us our own hearts, so we may come to Him and find rest. In all the trials and afflictions we go through we can trust and rest in the promise that, "God causes all things to work together **for good** to those who love Him." (Rom 8:28)

Moses exhorted the people of Israel saying, “So the LORD commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God **for our good always** and for our survival.” (Deut 6:24) Just as a loving father and mother would say to their child, “The guidelines and rules that we give you are for your good and because we love you we are correcting you.” How much more, does our heavenly Father want what is best for us and knows the right way for us to walk that we may experience it? “For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us **for our good**, that we may share His holiness.” (Heb 12:10) The heart and purpose of our Father in heaven towards us is continually for our good.

“You shall do what is right and good in the sight of the LORD, that is may be **well with you.**” (Deut 6:18a) If we desire life and that we may see good, let us take counsel from the psalmist: “Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. [For] the eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry.” (Psa 34:12-13)