



“We are purposed to Endure”

Rev. Dr. Loretta Iannicelli

Article written for The SPOTLIGHT Newsletter

American Evangelistic Association, Inc. Melbourne Florida

© Rev. Loretta Iannicelli 2016

“The purposes of a person’s heart are deep waters, but one who has insight draws them out.”

(NIV) Proverbs 20:5

All humanity has the common denominator of being made in the image of God. Every individual is born with both calling and purpose. One can either discover their destiny or miss it altogether. Through Christ, the believer has the power and influence of the Holy Spirit to draw upon for wisdom and guidance toward achieving His plan and will for their lives. Paul of the Bible provides us with a clear and meaningful example of purpose. Yes. Others in the Bible overcame great hardships, but Paul’s laundry list of persecution for the Gospel stands as a great encouragement to believers today that they, too, can turn any thorn into an opportunity for God’s grace and power to win the day.

A Hope for Destiny – Grace to Last

Paul persevered amidst great weakness, hardships, insults and difficulties (2 Cor 12:10). His plea to his Corinthian friends was timely in that they were facing a crossroads that jeopardized their stability, endurance, and sustainability. Paul wanted their focus to remain on Christ and the power of the unseen – aiming for a perspective of spiritual health, maturity and stamina - that would empower God’s far-reaching, kingdom-minded vision. The further the Corinthian Christians moved off the focus of Jesus Christ and the power of the Gospel as their central theme, the more their perspective and vision moved outside of God’s will for them. So I ask today, when was the last time you examined your focus? Are God’s kingdom plans being worked out through you in all His perfect power and grace? Could a change of perspective bring forth a timely adjustment that better serves you and others? God’s big-picture vision still

remains in that we are called to feed his sheep and reach a world lost and desperately needing His love and saving grace. Be encouraged! We are purposed to endure.

© Rev. Loretta Iannicelli. All rights reserved.

Written August 4, 2016 with permission for use in the American Evangelistic Association's SPOTLIGHT Newsletter