

I Hate To Burst Your Bubble

(2 Timothy 2:15)

- Introduction:
1. As we all know, the Bible is a book that is often misunderstood.
 2. Great care has to be given to a number of factors in arriving at a proper understanding of what the Bible teaches.
 3. This morning, I would like to briefly examine three passages with you that are often misunderstood, but in “bursting the bubble,” I want you to know that the reality is better than the fiction.

I. **Jeremiah 29:11 - God Has Plans To Prosper You**

- A. “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”
- B. This is a popular passage today.
- C. When I typed in “Jeremiah” in Google, “Jeremiah 29:11” popped up.
- D. This passage is misused by the “gospel of wealth and health preachers.”
- E. Consider this passage in context.
 1. Jeremiah is talking to exiles and telling them to build homes because they are going to be there 70 years!
 2. After 70 years, they can come back to Jerusalem.
 3. The prospering looked beyond those in the immediate context.
 4. In fact, because people have been so caught up in looking for personal health and wealth, they miss the way God planned to prosper them (Jeremiah 23:5-6).
 5. Sending Jesus was God’s plan to prosper us (Genesis 12:1-3).
- F. Isn’t the truth better?

II. **Philippians 4:13 - I Can Do All Things Through Christ Who Strengthens Me**

- A. “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”
- B. Again, I typed in Philippians, and this verse popped up in Google.
- C. This isn’t a magical incantation that enables Christians to run faster, jump higher, throw farther, shoot straighter, and earn more.
- D. Context - He has learned contentment in whatever state he is in.
- E. But isn’t the truth better?

III. **1 Corinthians 2:9 - Eyes Has Not Seen Nor Ear Heard...**

- A. This passage is frequently heard at funerals and is applied to the unseen beauties of Heaven.
- B. However, this is not what the passage is talking about at all.
- C. Paul is affirming inspiration, and things that had never been revealed had been revealed to him.
- D. That which “eye had not seen” is no longer a secret, for it was revealed to Paul and the apostles, and they revealed them to us (1 Corinthians 2:10).
- E. Again, isn’t the truth better than the fiction?

- Conclusion:
1. Were any of your bubbles burst this morning?
 2. If so, take comfort in the truth that is better than fiction.