

Destination

Sermon Title: **Destination**

Sermon Number: **5141**

Speaker: **Nathaniel Hawthorne Bronner, Jr.**

Links to audio sermon – *Windows Media Version is best, MP3 is 2nd best:*

Windows Media Version <http://www.theonlineword.com/s/5141.wma>

MP3 Version <http://www.theonlineword.com/mp3/5141.mp3>

TheOnLineWord.com

and

AirJesus.com

TheOnLineWord.com

AirJesus.com

PASTOR NATHANIEL: Today is the second in the series "Conquering the Nations." As you know from last week, our first of the series began with Revelations 2:26, and that became the basis for the series "Conquering the Nations." Revelations 2:26 reads, "And he that overcometh and keepeth My works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations." Power over the nations.

Our scripture today is going to be taken from the fourth chapter of the book of Exodus. You don't have to turn there, because I'm going to be reading from the New International Version for clarity. Exodus, Chapter 4, beginning with the 1st verse, "Moses answered, What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, The Lord did not appear to you? Then the Lord said to him, What is that in your hand? A staff, he replied. The Lord said, Throw it on the ground. Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it. Then the Lord said to him, Reach out your hand and take it by the tail. So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand. This, said the Lord, is so that they may believe that the Lord; the God of their Fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you. Then the Lord said, Put your hand inside your cloak. So Moses put his hand into his cloak, and when he took it out it was leprous like snow. Now, put it back into your cloak, He said. So Moses put his hand back into his cloak, and when he took it out it was restored like the rest of his flesh. Then the Lord said, If they do not believe you or pay attention to the first miraculous sign, they may believe the second. But if they do not believe these two signs or listen to you, take them water from the Nile and pour it on dry ground. The water you take from the river will become blood on the ground. Moses said to the Lord, O Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue. The Lord said to him, Who gave man his mouth? Who makes him deaf or mute? Who gives him sight or makes him blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now, go. I will help you speak and will teach you what to say. But Moses said, O Lord, please send someone else to do it. Then the Lord's anger burned against Moses."

The second verse is Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you, declared the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart. But Moses said, O Lord, please send someone else to do it."

The first of the series of Power over the Nations was entitled, "Procrastination," the power to move and to get something done and to stop delaying and to stop waiting, and to put things into action. The first nation is procrastination. And, today I want to talk to you about the second nation in "Conquering the Nations" so that you can have power over the nations. The second nation, that which Moses should have known, but like so many of us when God will tell us and He will leave instructions,

we say, “Lord, send someone else to do it. Lord, I’ve got this problem, and I’ve got that problem” or “There’s someone else who’s better equipped to do it.” The second nation that we must always conquer if we are ever going to get to the Promised Land is destination. Destination. You have got to know where you’re going. Turn to the person sitting next to you and ask him, “Do you know where you’re going?”

Now, that seems to be a simple question. But yet within that one simple sentence, there’s so much wrapped up into that, the richest man in the world, Bill Gates from Microsoft, has as a slogan for the company “Where do you want to go today?” See, Bill Gates, his mission is to help you get where you want to go using his product. And when you buy his product to help you get where you want to go, it takes him where he wants to go. Do you know where you were going? Ask your neighbor on the other side that question.

It’s such a simple question, Destination. And you see, in the dictionary the definition of destination says: “(1) the place to which one is going or directed; (2) the ultimate purpose for which something is created or intended.”

Do you know where you are going? Now, you just sit and think about that for me. You see, sometimes, folks, we are going in circles. We don’t really even know where we are going. All we know is, we are just moving, and sometimes, we get so tired; but sometimes it is without direction, it is without purpose. We don’t know our true destiny. And unless you can conquer the Nation of Destination and know where you are going, you’ll never get to where you’re supposed to be if you don’t know. Most people have never put forth serious effort. Sometimes we will put serious effort into moving, but not serious effort into trying to figure out where we are really going. Sometimes we’re just working, just working, just working, and not really knowing where we are going. Destination.

You see, even the within the word “destination,” it’s the destiny and it is the land of your destiny. It is your destiny and your land. It’s your destiny nation. It’s where you are supposed to be, in the land that you are supposed to abide, and so many of us are out of our destiny. Thus, we are in the wrong land. And we have frustration in our destination, because it’s not where we are supposed to be. Have you ever felt that you just weren’t supposed to be somewhere? I mean, have you ever just really felt that you weren’t supposed to be somewhere? It was warm and it was comfortable, but you knew something deep down in your soul knew, “It’s not where I’m supposed to be. It’s not my destiny.” And sometimes we’ll stay trapped in a land, because we just have never truly sought it and because we just don’t know where we are supposed to be.

I talked with a man just yesterday. He was out of a job. He had gone through job search after job search. He is 50 years old. I asked him and said, “Look, what do you really want to do?” He said, “Huh?” I said, “What do you really want to do?” He said,

“Man, I just want a job.” I said, “That’s not what I asked you. See, you just want to go anywhere.” I said, “What do you really want to do? What is your real calling? What is your destiny? What do you have a passion for? What is it that you really want to do?” And he sat and thought about it, and he said, “Umm-hmm-umm.” I don’t know -- college degree, well educated, well read, but had no idea what his destiny was, no idea what he really wanted to do and no idea what he was called to do. And as a result, for 50 years he has been doing nothing but just wandering. Never feeling right anywhere he’s been, he’s just been wandering. He was at this job for years and always complaining about it, never feeling right. Then he moved to that job and still never feeling right. Then he moved to another job and never feeling right with any of the positions, because he never got to the land of his destiny.

What you want to do? Do you know where you’re going? Suppose you walked out of this church today and had no idea where you were going. I mean, you just walked out of church, and you had no idea where you were going. What would you do? You’d have no idea; you’d just be walking up and down the street and driving to and fro. And sometimes, people, we go through life like that. Now, sometimes I will do that, even while I’m driving. Sometimes you just feel like just driving. You have no real destiny. The destination is no destination. You just see a road. And sometimes I’ll do that; sometimes I have jogged through some streets that I’ve never driven. Sometimes I’ll just be out running, I’ll just think, “Let me seem where this goes.” And I’ll take off down the road. I’ll run to end, and I’ll still cut through here. It’s just an adventure just to go, but I have no real destination and I wander aimlessly, just looking at the scenery. And I’m just running and just looking at the scenery, and that’s an adventure in itself for me, but my destination was no destination. But, you see, I knew where I was going. You say, “Well, Pastor, what do you mean, you ‘knew?’” I was going for a run. I was going to run just so many miles and come back. That was my destination. But so often, we go down street after street and turn down avenue after avenue and drive after drive and circle after circle, and we never have a real destination in life. We never know. Suppose you walked out of church today. And when you walk out of church, do you really know where you are going? That’s the real question, and you must know destination.

You see, God knows the plans that He has for you. They are plans to prosper you and not harm you. Now, those are God’s plans. Some of us have other plans. Do you know some folks have some other plans than what God plans for you? God’s plans are to prosper you! His plans are not to harm you, but some of us just have other plans; we’ve got some other issues; we’ve got some other directions; we’ve got some other destinations where we would rather go, because let me tell you, folks, everywhere you go is not where God wants you to go. Well, we end up in some places, and often when we’re in the places, we know good and well God doesn’t want us in those places. And sometimes we’ll rationalize it. “Well, you know, I don’t see how I’m ever going to get forgiveness.” “The Lord Jesus died on the cross for me. I’ve

got to give Him something just to die for.” Sometimes we can have all kinds of excuses. “The Lord knows I’m not perfect.” We can have all kinds of excuses and rationale as to how we can end up in destinations that God never intended for us to go. God’s plans are to prosper us, not to harm us. But sometimes we’ve got some other plans.

See, God gives us the plans and He gives us the blueprint for life. It’s just like if someone gave you a blueprint for a house; everything is specified. Now, if you don’t follow the blueprint, if the house calls for a 2 -x-4 and you put in a 1-x-2, and a strong wind comes, your house is going to collapse, because you didn’t follow the plans that God set forth.

Do you know where you are going? Ask your neighbor that one more time. See, sometimes, people, we think we know what we want; but we don’t know where we are going. Some may say about destination, “Well, Pastor, I just want a good man. That’s all I want, I just want a good man.” Well, if that’s your destination, do you really know where you are going, and are you going towards your destination? It’s like if I said, “You know, I want to go fishing.” Well, first of all, what kind of fish do you want to catch? You see, it makes a difference if you want to catch a red snapper or a mullet. You have to go to different locations, depending of what kind of fish you want to catch. You have to go to the ocean if you want to catch a red snapper; you have to go to a freshwater if you want to catch mullet. So you say, “Well, I want to catch me a mullet and some bass and some trout.” Well, you go to the lake. You can’t just stand on the bank, looking in the lake, saying, “I see mullet. Oh, there’s a nice trout going there. There’s a nice, big bass over there.” No! You have got to, first of all, get equipped. You’ve got to get a pole, you’ve got to get some bait, and you’ve got to know how to properly cast the pole and the bait.

I took my sons and James’s sons out on my boat, and Steph and his father went with us, and he was an experienced fisherman. None of us had any experience. We all had the same pole, the same hook and the same bait. He was just reeling in fish after fish after fish, and we were sitting there. I had my pole and I jiggled it up and down, and he was just reeling in fish after fish after fish. The difference was, he had experience. He had been fishing for a long time and we had no experience, and as a result, he was catching where we were not.

So when you understand and know what you want, you’ve got to, first of all, put yourself in position and start moving towards your destiny. “I want a good man.” Well, are you going to the pool where the good men are? I want a good man, and there you sitting up at 2:00 o’clock in the morning at a smoke-filled club, looking for a good man. He’s not there!

I heard a lady comedian say this. It was funny, but it was true. She said she goes to Home Depot to look for her man, because she knows any man in the Home Depot

has a home. Now, it sounded silly and it sounded funny, but it made real good sense. I go to Home Depot myself, so it makes real good sense. If you're going to look for something and if you know a destination, you have to plot out your course, you have to know it and you have to go where the thing is that you want, and you have to have the proper bait to get the thing.

"Well, I know what kind of good man I want. I want to marry a doctor." Do you know who most doctors marry? Other doctors. So if you want to marry a doctor, you need to get into medical school, because you have to have the bait.

So these are the things that even in dealing with destination. See, when you set your mind and when you know your destination, it will change the way you walk. It will change the way you dress, based on where you are going. It'll change the way you think. Do you know where you're going?

God spoke to me not long ago, and He spoke these words to me. He said, "You can be in better shape at 50 than you've ever been in your life." I was walking around, and when I heard those words and I heard Him speak that, I said, "Wow! That's awesome!" And I said to myself, "I want to go there." Now, as I looked back over the statement, two things stood out: first, I immediately began planning what I had to do to be in better shape than I've ever been in my life, and I knew that physical condition for me was three things: speed, strength and endurance. I knew the maximum speed I'd ever had, the maximum endurance I'd ever had and the maximum strength I'd ever had, and I knew I had to beat all of those.

Then I began thinking about it. "Wait just a minute." I said, "God didn't say anything about physical. He said you can be in better shape at 50 than you've ever been in your life." I said, "That's everything." Turn to your neighbor and say, "That's everything." Do you know, when God says, "I have plans to prosper you," do you know that is everything? Some people just think in a narrow range, and you limit God. He wasn't just talking about physical condition. When He said He has plans to prosper you, He wasn't just talking about money -- it's everything!

I began to then think in a new manner. He is not just talking about my body; He's talking about my money, He's talking about my mind, He's talking about my spirit, He's talking about my marriage, He's talking about my children; He's talking about everything I'm connected to. God said, "You can be in better shape at 50 than you've ever been in your life." There was one big keyword that I must get over. Do you know what that word was? "Can." Turn to your neighbor and then say, "Can." That's a big word, and you've got to listen to exactly what He said. He did not say, "You will be"; He said, "You can be." Look at your neighbor square in the eye and just tell them, "You can. You can!"

Now, see, “can” is a word that puts the responsibility back on who? That’s right, it puts the square back on you. He said, “You can.”

Now, see, many of us, people, want the “will” of God; we don’t want the “can” of God, because you have to open that can and you got to work with that can. You see, we want the will of God. I’ve got to admit, I’d prefer it that way myself. I wish that I could just be walking and feel the power and the finger of God just hit me, just like “Whoo!!” on just everything. The muscles if touched just “pop!” I get home, and Puddin’ will just be all “pop!” I mean, I want to just feel everything just “pop.” See, this is the way we want it from God: “pop!” See, we don’t want to deal with that can; we just want “pop.” You know, we just want the “pop” and all of a sudden everything just pops into place. “Lord, I want Your blessings to just fall down on me!” Sometimes, folks, we have to get where the blessing is falling! It’s not so much the will; it’s the can. You can, and that one little word changed how I had to approach the thing, because if He said, “You can,” it also by equivalent probably meant you can’t.

See, if He says, “You **can** be in better shape at 50,” that also means you could **not** be in better shape at 50 than you’ve ever been in your life. The difference was going to be if I recognized and understood my destination. And I set it up in my mind that in every area of my life, I am going to be in better shape at 50 than I have ever been in my life. I got it all plotted. I know exactly where I’m going. If God said I can do it, I’ve got to begin working towards this thing; but all destinations are going to require you to do something. People, I wish there was that power, because I’d be the first in line for a solid “pow”; but it just doesn’t work that way. There is some stuff we must do!

God knows the plans that He has for us. Now, I want to give you seven steps to reaching your destination. This series of “Power Over the Nations” is going to change some lives now and forevermore. These are all practical things. They are not way up in the spirit, because you are going to have to do most of this stuff down here on the Earth every single day.

The first step to reaching your destination, number one is to find out where you are. Now, that may sound silly; but anytime you have to go anywhere and you call to get directions somewhere, they are going to ask you, “Well, where are you coming from?” The first thing you must do is to find out where you are, to sit and actually to take stock of your situation and to look around and honestly to see where you are, because, people, where we are going and how fast we get there and how we start off really does depend upon where we are. It makes a difference.

If you are starting a business, it makes a difference if you have \$10 million in the bank versus \$10. It makes a difference! I don’t take care how much it is, but it makes a difference. So you need to first honestly look and see and take an

assessment of where you are. When Gerald teaches the financial class, whether the people are in good shape or they are in bad shape, the first thing he has them do is to sit down and put everything on paper. Find out where your finances are. Most people don't even know how much they spend every month. They've never put it down. All they know is, they spend everything they've got. But they don't know how much that really is. If you ask the average people, "What's your budget every month?" "Umm-hmm-umm. All I know is, I make this amount, and I've got this much left in the bank every month." They just don't know. We don't know where we are. So, first of all is to find out where you are.

The second thing is to find out where you've been. And you say, "Well, Pastor, but that stuff's behind me." Paul said, "I cast all that stuff behind me and I just press on toward it." You need to know where you've been. And you need to honestly know, because, you see, I've seen this over and over in life. Where we have been strongly determines where we go, and if you do not recognize where you have been, you are condemned to go where you're going. You'd be surprised how few people recognize patterns. Just like the person I was telling you about, the pattern of his job was the same. I said, "Man, until you learn to get into something that truly fulfills you, all you are going to do is repeat what you've always done these last 40 years! You've got to make some changes, but you've got recognize where you have been." And, when you look and you honestly see where you have been, you'll see history; and those who do not remember the past are always condemned to repeat it.

Most don't even recognize the past. I can tell you this, people. If you put down the stuff in your life and you write it on paper, anything that has happened more than two times, it's not them. We often a tendency to say, "Well, you know, I got those folks at my job, they let me go at my job. That's the fourth job I've been let go. Every boss I get, something is wrong with these folks." If it's happened more than two times, I can virtually guarantee you, it is not them.

"Pastor, I'm going to get a good husband." "I'm going to get a good wife this time. I'm going to really get a good wife this time, Pastor, because the last six just haven't been any good." Now, we had this situation, actually. The man had gone through seven wives! I said, "Man, look. It's not the wives." He said, "The women these days!?" I said, "Look, I don't care what you say. If you have gone through seven wives, it is not the women."

So you have to honestly look at where you have been. And I mean honestly, because sometimes it's difficult for most people to do, because they don't like to look at the truth about themselves. Patterns are difficult to break. They always have been. Look at it, know and honestly plot where you have been.

Number three is, find out what you have. You'd be surprised how few of us truly recognize what we've been given: the talents that we have, the abilities, the gifts

and all of the stuff that we really have. My mother made a testimony about when God asked her the question, "Are you using your talents?" And she said, "What talents?" My mother asked me, "What talents do I have?" I just rattled off 15 of them right off the top of my head. And she said, "Wow! I didn't even realize I even had all of that." Sometimes, people, if you just sit down and put what you have, you'll start to see a whole lot. You see, unfortunately, the way the world makes us operate, it makes us operate and focus far more on what we don't have than on what we do have. "Well, Pastor, you know I don't have this, and I don't have that. You know, I came from a family where my daddy wasn't any good." "Well, you had a good mama, didn't you? Put that down." So you don't need to worry about what you don't have, because there's not anything you can do with what you don't have. The only thing you can do something with is what you do have. Many times, we don't recognize what we do have until we start putting down what we do have.

Oftentimes, even in marriage counseling when couples come in who are about to shoot each other, they answer, "But you don't understand. This has to be this way" and "She did and then she did that." I just ask them, "Look, all I want you to do is write down all of the bad things about the person on the left side of the paper and write down all of the good things about the person on the right side of the paper." Without fail, what would happen, there may be two or three things on this left side and as they start writing all of the good things, the good list starts to far outnumber the bad; but the badness will have small stuff on it. You know, "He doesn't listen to me." And he's got on his list, "She talks too much." But then on the good side, "He is always there." "She has never run around on me." "He watches too many sports." "I always know where he is. The man has always brought his check home." So you start looking at the good things, and the good things will start to way outnumber them. You've got to know even what you have.

The devil will always make you focus on what you don't have. And I am going to give you another key: there is always going to be something you don't have. I don't care how successful you get, there's going to be something in life you do not have or wish you had something different. You can't get around that! Success, joy and peace come with the ability not to focus on what you are missing, but to focus on what you do have. That's why Moses had a staff. When God turned it into a serpent, Moses ran from it. God just asked Moses, "What have you got?" "A staff, a stick." He said, "Throw it on the ground." He threw it on the ground, and God took what he had and added the supernatural to it. But it scared him.

And sometimes, people, even the talents and the abilities that God has given you, you're scared to use them! You're scared of them! And God told Moses when the staff was turned into a serpent, "Go pick it up, and pick it up by the tail." Now, you know you don't pick up a snake by the tail. Most of you want to pick up a snake any kind of way; but if you were going to pick up a snake, you don't pick up a snake by the tail, because the snake can curl back around and bite you. You pick up a snake right behind the head. He said, "Pick it up by the tail." So God was telling Moses,

“Anything that I give you, if I give it to you and if I tell you how to use it, regardless of what it looks like to the world and by natural science, you will be safe with it.”

God told Moses, “What’s in your hand?” And some of the things that God has given us are like a serpent to us, and we are scared of it, and sometimes we are ashamed of it. Some of you got a big behind. You have tried and you have tried and you have tried, and you cannot get rid of that big behind. You curse it. You know I’m telling the truth. And yet, there is a man out there that’s looking for a behind that is just the exact size and shape that you have... absolutely, without a doubt! And that which may be a serpent to you is supernatural to someone else! So you’ve got to realize what you have, and you may have to get up in the mirror and say, “Lord, I got me a butt. The Lord has given me a whole lot of understanding here!” You’ve got to recognize it! You see, actually, the key in the size of the behind; it’s how the behind is carried. Now, I’m just breaking it down straight just in the natural sense. And you see, you are ashamed of it; but do you know someone has a well-endowed behind who really carries that thing -- I mean, it’s shaking up folks -- because they are using what God has placed in their hands. So you need to take an inventory and understand what you have.

The fourth thing is this: you need to find out what your parents say your destiny is. You say, “What?! It seems like I ought to ask the Lord that.” The problem with that is this: most people cannot hear clearly from God; that’s why He gave you parents. There’s no one that knows your abilities better than your parents as a general rule. Now, there are a few exceptions to that; but as a general rule, parents know their children. They can see things in you that you don’t even know you have. They’ve watched you all of your life. I remember when my mother had my father to prophesy over all of his children, this has been 15 years ago. I remember the things that my father spoke over me. My daddy knew me to a tee. My mother knows her children better than they know themselves. Ask your parents, “Mama, what am I good at? Daddy, what am I good at?” They’ll know, because oftentimes they can see and they’ve seen you all these years, and there are gifts within you that sometimes you do it and don’t even realize that you’re doing it; but Mama knows, and Daddy knows. Ask them. That’s why even in the Bible, men were supposed to lead unto God their children. There’s an old Jewish proverb that goes, “If a man does not teach his son a trade, it is equivalent to teaching him robbery.” It’s the parent’s responsibility. See, a child asks the parents what their destiny is; but they don’t put it in those words. They’ll ask you sometimes, “Daddy, what am I good at?” And it’s the parents’ responsibility to recognize some things in the child and to nurture and to cultivate those things. Ask your parents, “What is my destiny?”

Number five: learn to separate destination from fascination (laughing). Learn to separate destination from fascination. See, some of us are sometimes led into things not because it’s our destination, but because it’s our fascination. “I want to be a rapper.” For most people, that’s not their destination. “I want to play in the NBA!”

Most people, that's not their destination. "I want to be a heavyweight boxing champion of the world." That's what I wanted to be. But I realized that was a fascination, that was not a destination. And we can get wrapped up. I was in the music business. We made three albums. We had three songs that went to Billboard's Top 100. But that was a fascination, and I had to learn and I had to be taught that was not my destination. You've got to learn to separate and to know the difference between destination and fascination. And too many oftentimes, we end up in a nation of fascination. Even the definition is "to hold an intent, interest or attraction for; to hold motionless; spellbind; to bewitch." We get fascinated by things of the world and all the glitter and the glamour and things that are nowhere near our destination; but yet we become fascinated by this stuff. Some folks are fascinated by the man who wins a \$200,000,000 lottery. And that's the only thing that stays on our minds. I've seen folks who have all kinds of computer programs picking out lotto numbers. That's a fascination; it's not a destination. And we get lost in the Land of Fascination. Know the difference between the two.

Number six: understand there are nations to conquer along the way and giants in the land when you get there. Whenever God gives you a destination, usually it is never easy; but there's something in your bones that gives you the enthusiasm and gives you the energy to get this thing done. Always understand that there are going to be things to conquer along the way. Just because God gives you a destiny, gives you a purpose, gives you what you are supposed to be, don't expect the "pow!" Understand it is still going to involve the "can." When Moses led the children out of Egypt, they were heading towards the Promised Land. It was their destiny, but they never made it. They got detoured. They became fascinated with other gods. They got stuck in the Land of Fascination and never reached the Land of Destination. You're going to have some things along the way. And even when you get there, there are going to be giants in your Promised Land and your destination. Be prepared to deal with them. Be prepared to endure to the end. It's not necessarily going to be easy.

Number seven: there is always a new destination once you get there. Whenever you're in God's will, God never takes you to a place of permanent rest. When you get one thing conquered, He'll open up the door and say, "Now, my child, here is another step for you. This is where I'm taking you now." God will take you from level to level to level. He'll never just leave you at a spot. When God is moving in your life, He'll keep moving. He'll let you rest for a while. This is one of the reasons, even, why the medical profession has the second-highest suicide rate of any profession. One of the reasons is because some people thought when they got there, all their problems would be solved and disappear. They didn't understand once they reach their destination, there's a whole new set of issues to deal with. Understand. We think, "Well, once I get money, all my problems will be solved." No, you'll find out that once you get money, there's still a whole new set of issues to deal with. God will take you from destination to destination, but you need to understand these seven principles.

Now, there's another whole list of dealing with goal-setting and how to get there. There are some business principles about the specific mechanisms of some things. But you've got to understand some spiritual principles first. And first, you've got to answer that question: do you know where you are going? If you don't know and if you can't write it, you don't know. If you cannot write it right now, you don't know. Most of us are just making it day by day. And you hear, "How are you doing?" "I'm making it day by day," which means they are not really going anywhere but in circles. Do you know where you are going?

Even with this Church, when I became Pastor, my goal was to fill this sanctuary. That was my goal, it was not my destination. That's why on your program, you'll see our mission statement, "Fill the people"; that's what God told me" The thing that I was getting ready to try to do was a good thing, but it was not my destination. As I was planning and asking God, God said, "Why do you want to fill the church?" I said, "Well, that's what I'm supposed to do." He said, "Why?" I said, "It's what is expected." God said, "Why?" As He went on asking me why to each thing, I finally answered and said, "Well, Lord, what do You want me to do?" "Fill the people." And I didn't understand then that He had a larger mission in mind.

I didn't know about Mountain Wings at the time. By the end of this month, Mountain Wings will go over 1 million people. Even the book with the retreat that we went, the pastoral retreat, I found out it's even on the Christian bestseller list. Now, the book is already halfway to the number that meets the bestseller list on the Christian books. But I told you last week, my destination is the *New York Times'* bestseller list. I've got a destination. If you've got a destination, then you can begin. There are some giants and some nations to conquer along that path, and there are some giants once you get there; but if you know where you are going, then you can begin to trod there and to get there. Do you know where you are going? The Nation of Destination.

Last week, we spoke about the Nation of Procrastination. When you decide to do it, do not delay. Then you have to know where you are going and what to do. The Nation of Destination. Bow your heads.

Dear Heavenly Father, we pray upon this day that You give people direction, dear Father, as they ask of You. Let them see clearly that which they are to do, that which You have purposed for them in this life, dear Father, so that they will know their mission in You, and they can have fulfillment and they can accomplish that which they were placed on this Earth to fulfill. We pray right now for clarity of vision. As they go through just these things, give them the vision to see where they are, to see where they've been; to have the rapport and relationship even with their parents to even ask where they should go, so they shall know where they are going,

their destiny. So they shall know their destination. In Thy Son Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.