

## **Bloom Wherever God Plants You Psalm 1:3**

*by Pastor Roy Hogan*

Psalms 1:3 *And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.*

You and I have little control over our circumstances: parents, Date of birth, location, gender, color of skin, stature, siblings, the school I attended. How did you wind up living where you live or working where you work?

In this season, at our house we do not plant a garden, but we plant a few flowers. There is hardly anything on this earth as beautiful as the bloom on a flower. We go to the store to buy flower potting plants. I wonder where the plant germinated. The plant had no idea how it came about. It had nothing to do with where and when it germinated. It had no idea where it was destined. Who would buy it? Where would the person who purchased it live? In whose flower pot or flower garden would it be placed? No wonder God likened you and I as people, to plants in Isaiah 40:8 *The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.*

The plant had no control over its arrival, its destination, its owner. *It has only one purpose and one job: to bloom!* If it does not bear forth blooms, it is useless. Money was paid for the plant in hopes of getting blooms, and if no blooms, the money was wasted.

I speak today on the topic: Bloom Wherever God Plants You.

I will use some men in God's Word who wound up in some awful location, but regardless of their circumstances, they bloomed for the glory of God.

### **Jeremiah**

Ministered 627-580 B.C.

Jeremiah sure had no control over his circumstance, for God anointed him to preach while he was in his mother's womb: Jeremiah 1:5-7 *"Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. {6} Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. {7} But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak."*

Jeremiah ministry spanned the reign of 5 kings and only the first one, Josiah, was a Godly person. The other four were nonbelievers given to idolatry. I wish I could have lived my entire life beneath the command of a Christian president. However, I had no control over who the president is. In my lifetime, there have been some infidel men in office of the president.

The nation Israel was given to idolatry in the time of Jeremiah's life. We think it is bad in our community and our country, and it is, but I wonder if our nation is as idolatrous as was Jeremiah's nation in his day. Jeremiah 2:20-21 *"For of old time I have broken thy yoke, and burst thy bands; and thou saidst, I will not transgress; when upon every high hill and under every green tree thou wanderest, playing the harlot. {21} Yet I had planted thee a noble vine, wholly a right seed: how then art thou turned into the degenerate plant of a strange vine unto me?"*

Playing a harlot, a degenerate plant. Wow! How could a Christian survive in such an environment? How could a preacher like Jeremiah cry forth the Gospel in such an environment?

However, that is not all: Jeremiah 2:26-28 *"As the thief is ashamed when he is found, so is the house of Israel ashamed; they, their kings, their princes, and their priests, and their prophets, {27} Saying to a stock, Thou art my father; and to a stone, Thou hast brought me forth: for they have turned their back unto me, and not their face: but in the time of their trouble they will say, Arise, and save us. {28} But where are thy gods that thou hast made thee? let*

*them arise, if they can save thee in the time of thy trouble: for according to the number of thy cities are thy gods, O Judah."*

Is it this bad in America today? Probably, it is. Men have been marrying women for 6000 years- until now. We can't figure out who to marry. How can a man of God, a child of God, bloom in the environment we live in? We are killing babies. Christians are hated. Truth is rejected. Men had rather hear lies than the preaching of the Gospel.

How could Jeremiah preach as he did in such an environment. He bloomed where God planted him. Go to the house of God and tell them the truth. Listen to his preaching in Jerimiah 26:4-7. The people were offended and in 26:8 declared the man of god should die. In 26:9, all the people turned against him. In 26:11, we read "this man is worthy of death."

Did Jeremiah stop blooming? Did he wither? Did he go home and call it quits? No. In 26:12-15.

## **Hosea**

Hosea took a wife, Gomer. She was from a people who were questionable in character. Nevertheless, it seems the marriage got off to a good start. A baby boy was born to Hosea and his wife (1:3). Then, Hosea's world turned upside-down. Gomer bore two more children that were born of other men (1:6-8). These two children are called children of whoredom. Dear God, Hosea, pack up your bags, call it quits, and go home. How can a man of God, a prophet of Jehovah, minister in such a dreadful situation? The scorn and the burden of shame and defilement must have been enormous.

How could anyone *bloom* in such a dreadful situation? Hosea followed the command of God. He never gave up nor gave in. He *bloomed* on. God instructed him to go, to seek out his wife, Gomer, and to buy her back with fifteen pieces of silver and 1 ½ omers of barley. "No God, I can't possibly take her back. No God, she has proved she is unworthy and unfit. God, there is no way I can go on.

There is no way I can serve in my role as preacher of your Gospel with such a defiled woman as my wife.”

Hosea kept going. He gathered the 15 pieces of silver and the 1 ½ omers of barley and lured her back home as God had commanded him to do.

**Ezekiel**

**Moses**