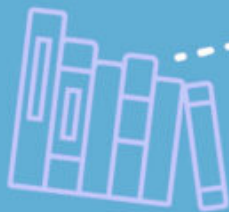




# Tips for Surviving Quitter's Day 2025





HOPE

DOWNTOWN

WHERE  
ARE YOU  
GOING?



# Romans 15:23-28

## Paul's Plan to Visit Rome

<sup>23</sup> But now that there is no more place for me to work in these regions, and since I have been longing for many years to visit you, <sup>24</sup> I plan to do so when I go to Spain. I hope to see you while passing through and to have you assist me on my journey there, after I have enjoyed your company for a while. <sup>25</sup> Now, however, I am on my way to Jerusalem in the service of the Lord's people there.

## Romans 15:23-28

<sup>26</sup> For Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the Lord's people in Jerusalem. <sup>27</sup> They were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in the Jews' spiritual blessings, they owe it to the Jews to share with them their material blessings. <sup>28</sup> So after I have completed this task and have made sure that they have received this contribution, I will go to Spain and visit you on the way.

1. What Plans Reveal

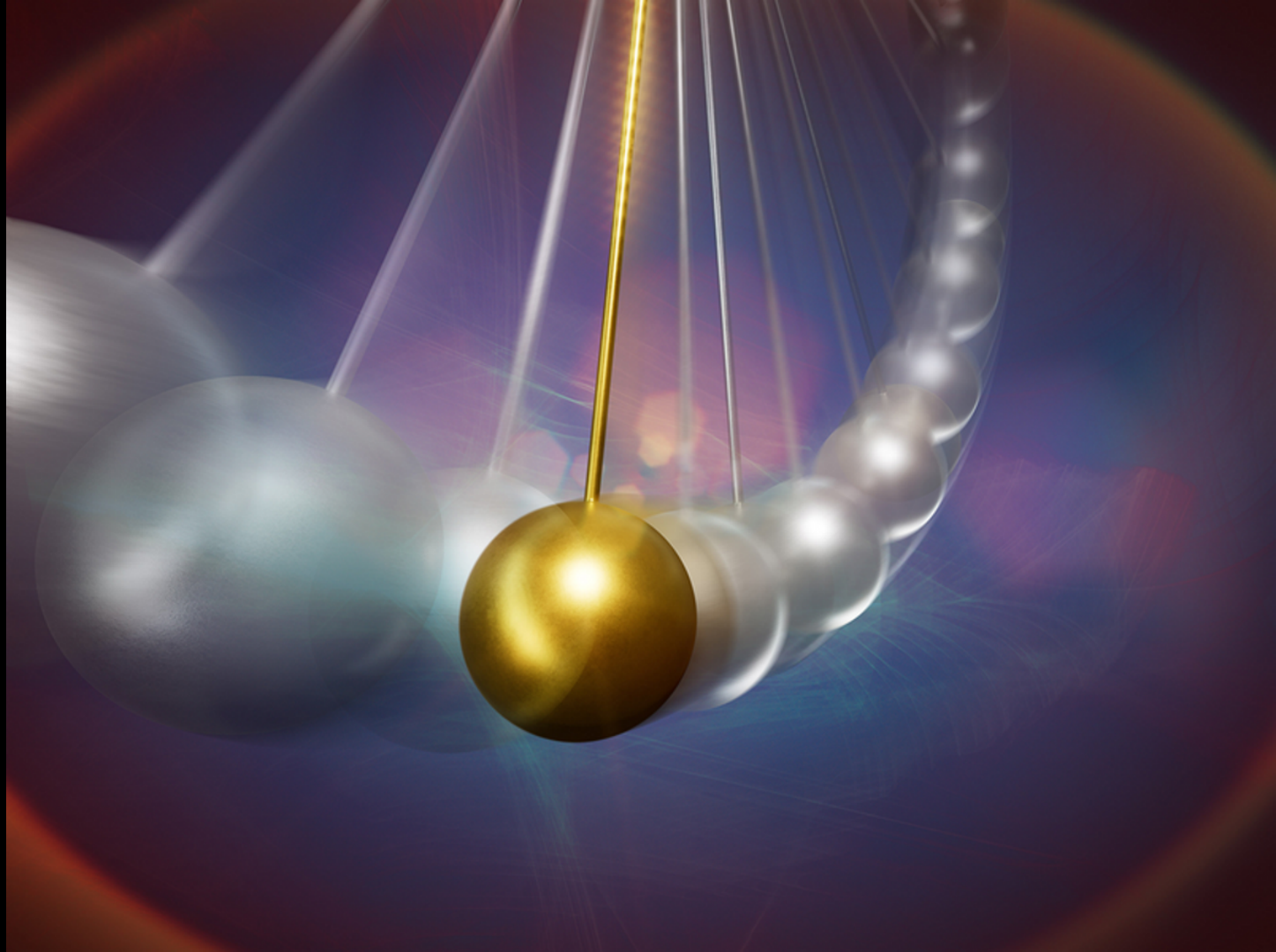
2. Why Plans Fall Apart

3. How to Plan on Purpose

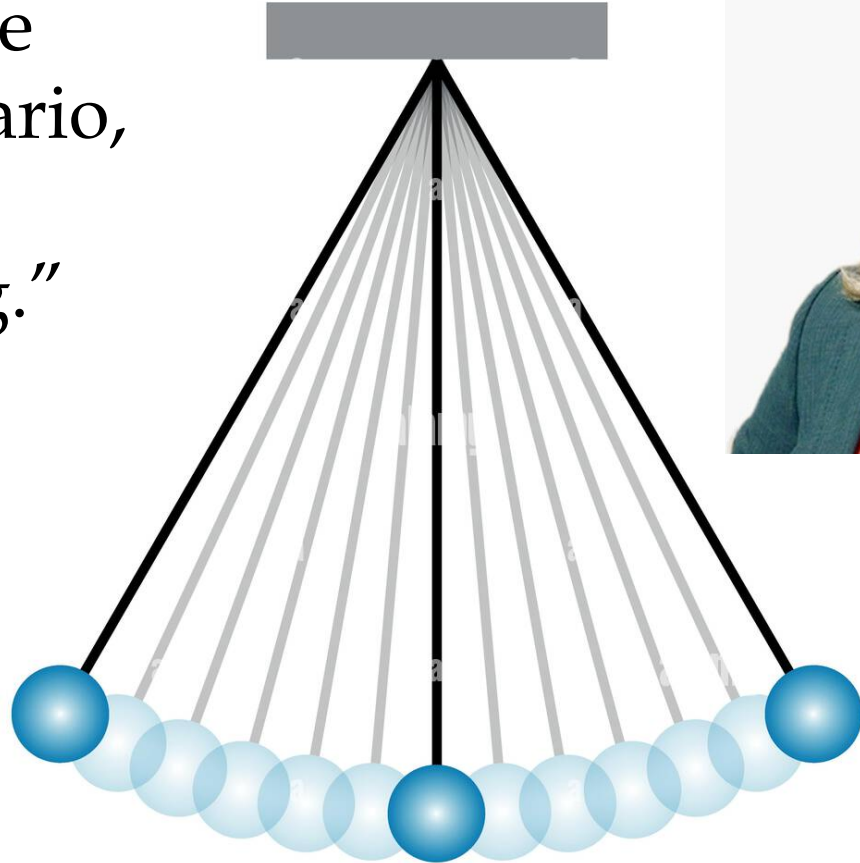
# Proverbs 16:9

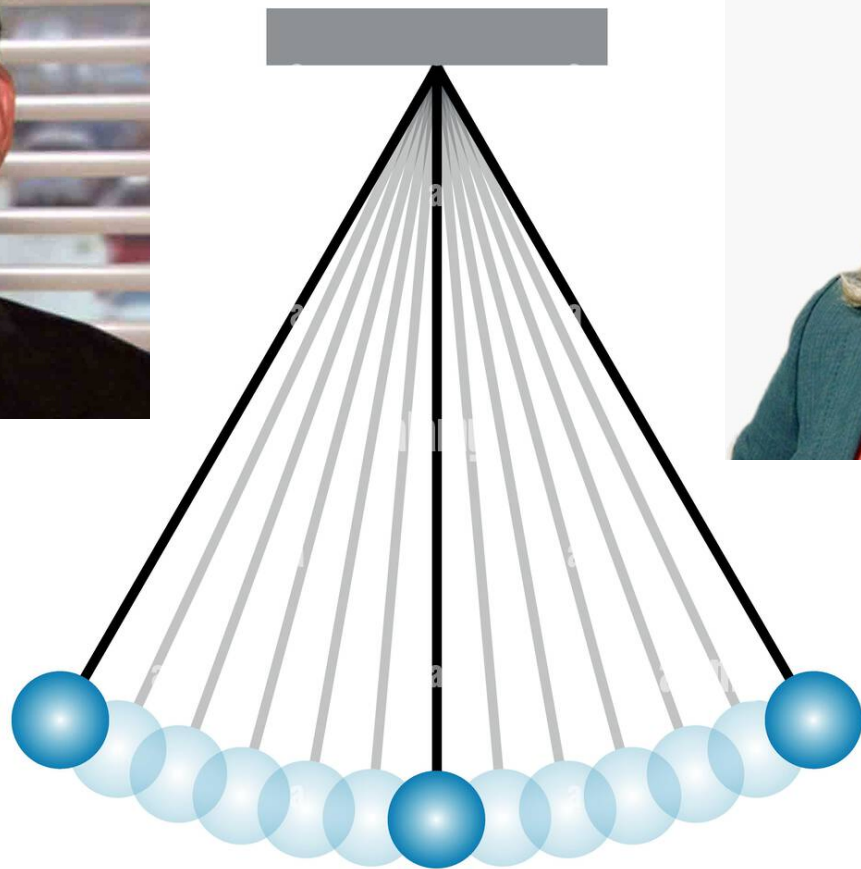
<sup>9</sup> In their hearts humans plan their course,  
but the LORD establishes their steps.





I have a binder for every possible disaster scenario, including the world ending.”



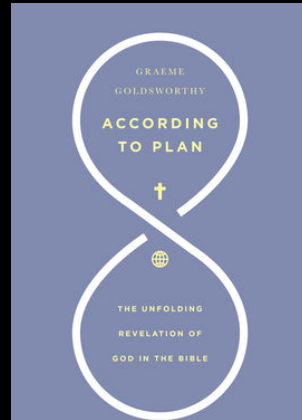


# Psalm 93:1-2

The Lord reigns; He is robed in majesty...  
indeed, the world is established, firm and secure.  
Your throne was established long ago;  
You are from all eternity.

How does God rule in his kingdom? In Eden he ruled by speaking to Adam and Eve and by giving them rule over the rest of creation. God was ruling when he called Abraham. He was ruling when he spoke to Moses out of the burning bush and when he gave him the law on Mount Sinai. Already we see that God's choice is to rule his kingdom, even before the fall, through human beings. Moses, the prophet and priest, also mediated God's kingship through the law and in his personal leadership. Joshua's leadership upheld the law of Moses and asserted itself against the nations which opposed the coming of God's kingdom.”

Graeme Goldsworthy, *According to Plan*







WHY  
~~WHEN~~ IT HITS THE  
FAN





# Ecclesiastes 9:11

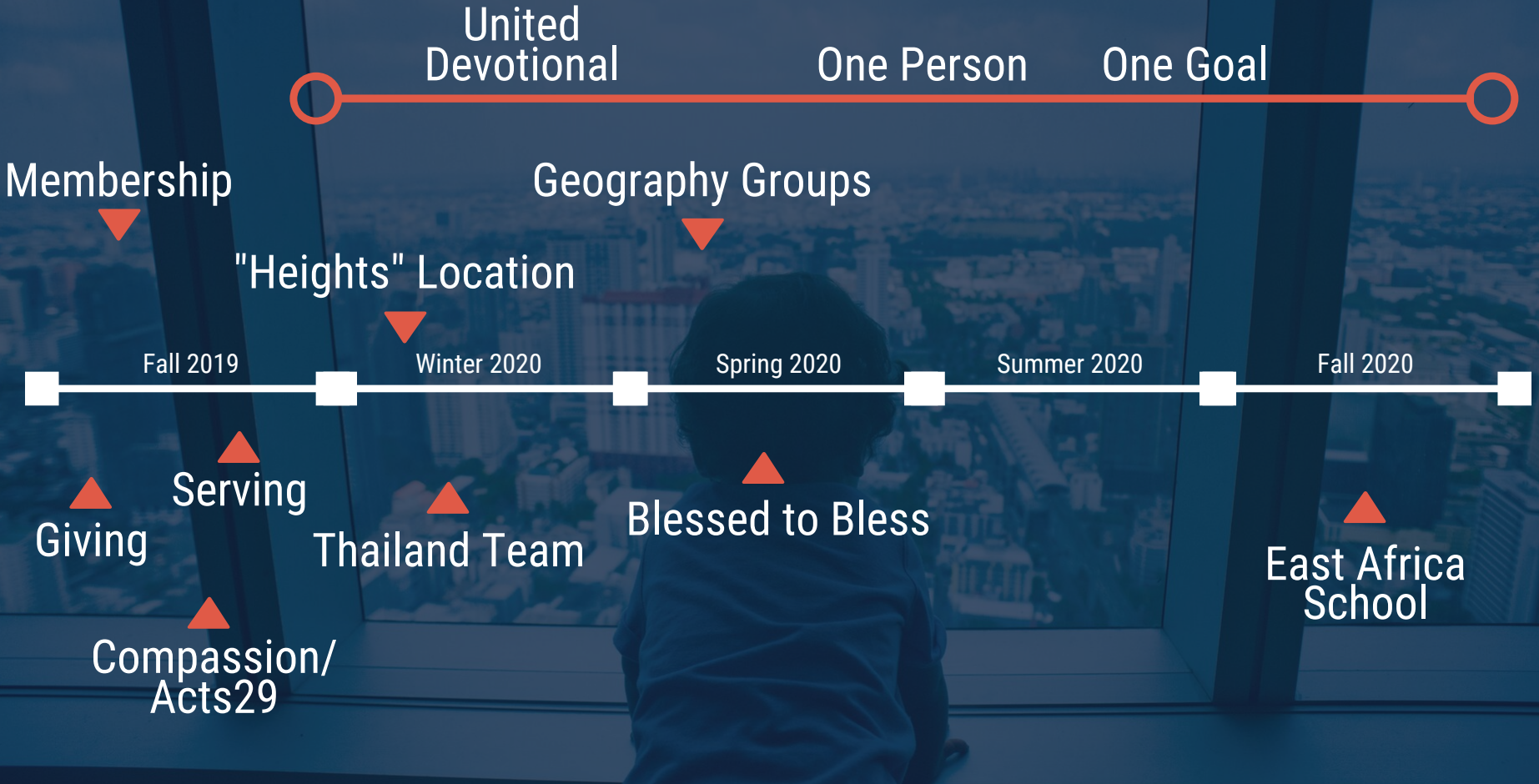
## *Reason #1: Chaos Reigns*

<sup>11</sup> Again I saw that under the sun the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favor to those with knowledge, but time and chance happen to them all.

20 / 20

# THE 20/20 INITIATIVE





United Devotional

One Person

One Goal

Membership

Geography Groups

"Heights" Location

Fall 2019

Winter 2020

Spring 2020

Summer 2020

Fall 2020

Giving

Serving

Compassion/  
Acts29

Thailand Team

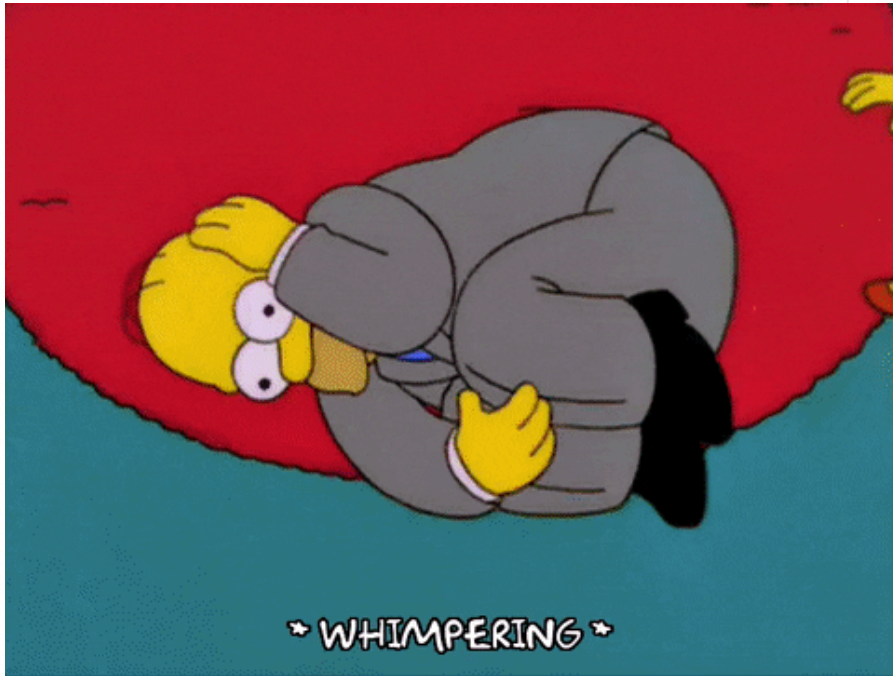
Blessed to Bless

East Africa  
School

A person is seen from behind, sitting on a windowsill and looking out at a vast cityscape. The scene is dimly lit, with a blue tint. The URL 'hopecc.com/2020' is overlaid in large white text across the center of the image.

[hopecc.com/2020](https://hopecc.com/2020)

2020



### Hope Offices

707 10th Ave. S Minneapolis, MN 55415

Monday-Thursday: 9:00-4:00

(612) 378-8820

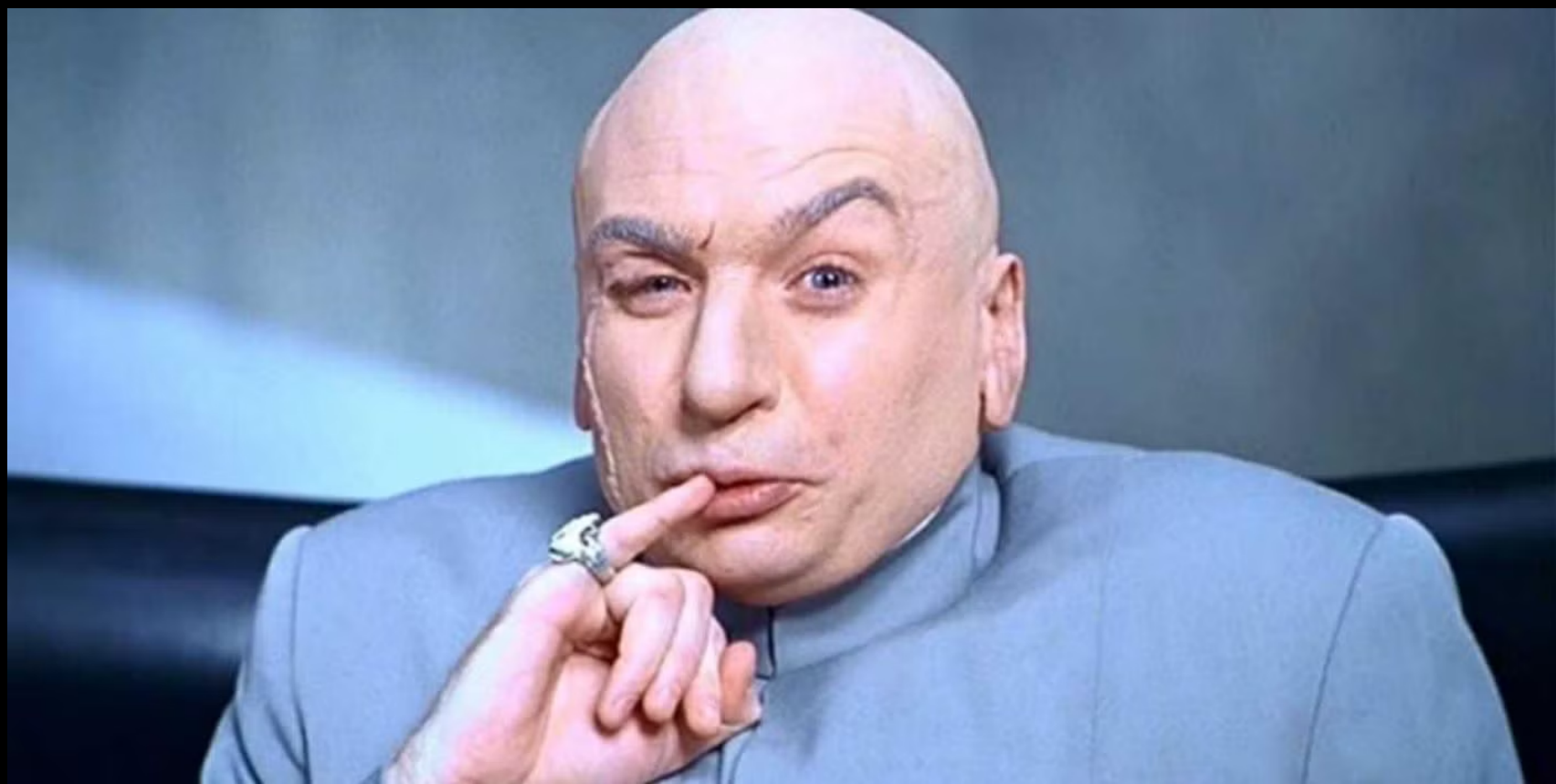
### Quick Links

[Giving at Hope >](#)

[Weddings & Outside Events >](#)

[Ministry Directory >](#)





# Romans 1:21-25

## *Reason #2: Our Plans Are Evil*

<sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

# Romans 1:21-25

*Reason #2: Our Plans Are Evil  
(...BUT God Interrupts Evil!)*

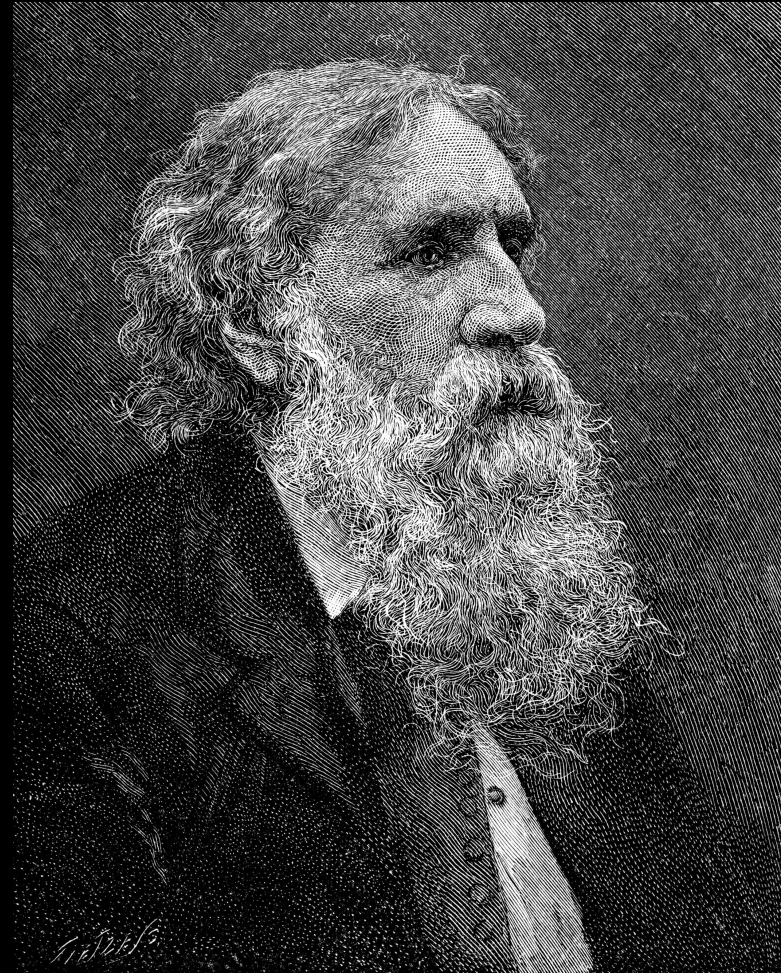
<sup>24</sup> Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. <sup>25</sup> They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator – who is forever praised. Amen.





The one principle  
of hell is:  
“I am my own”

- George Macdonald





# Matthew 6:24

<sup>24</sup> No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

## Matthew 6:24 (KJV)

<sup>24</sup> No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and **mammon**.

In using the name Mammon, Jesus had in mind not just a concept but a power... Mammon wants to put all persons into the service of things and ultimately to bring about the exploitation of all creation.. [Its offer is] 'abundance without dependence' and the more we engage with it, the more we become conformed to its image."

Andy Crouch, *The Life We're Looking For: Reclaiming Relationship in a Technological World*. New York: Convergent Books, 2022.

The Life  
We're  
Looking  
For



Reclaiming Relationship in  
a Technological World

ANDY CROUCH





I have only started to realize that, when Loom was in its early innings, I felt very secure with my position in life, and lots of this stemmed from an extreme gratitude for the journey I was on. I was happy with everything as it was. The growth trajectory of the company was more than I could ever dream for. I was happy. I felt secure. It could all turn to [stuff] the next day, and that would be ok...



Then, as the company continued to skyrocket to new heights, I started to have growing expectations for myself, and others started to have growing expectations of me. When we went through our first round of layoffs, this company my ego was hitched to had suffered a massive blow, so I lost myself. This whole chapter of Loom has created a complex web of internalized insecurities I must now work hard to disentangle and free myself from...

The point of this post isn't to brag or gain sympathy. To be honest, I don't exactly know what the point of this post is. I tried to manufacture one, but I just felt like a phony. Then I recognized the irony of creating purpose out of a blog post when I don't currently have much conviction or purpose in life."

Vinay Hiremath, *I am rich and have no idea what to do with my life*  
<https://vinay.sh/i-am-rich-and-have-no-idea-what-to-do-with-my-life/>





I wonder what sort of a tale we've fallen into?

GRAEME  
GOLDSWORTHY

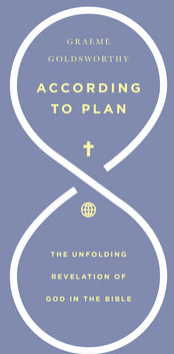
**ACCORDING  
TO PLAN**



THE UNFOLDING  
REVELATION OF  
GOD IN THE BIBLE

Without some understanding of the overall plan or structure of the Bible it is difficult to correctly relate the various parts of the Bible to ourselves... Since Christ is *the truth*, God's final and fullest word to mankind, all other words in the Bible are given their final meaning by him. The same Christ gives us our meaning and defines the significance of our existence in terms of our relationship to him."

Graeme Goldsworthy, *According to Plan: The Unfolding Revelation of God in the Bible* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2002), 72



## Philippians 1:12-14

<sup>12</sup> What has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. <sup>13</sup> As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. <sup>14</sup> And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.

## Romans 15:17-28

<sup>17</sup> Therefore I glory in Christ Jesus in my service to God...

### Paul's Plan to Visit Rome

<sup>23</sup> But now that there is no more place for me to work in these regions, and since I have been longing for many years to visit you, <sup>24</sup> I plan to do so when I go to Spain. I hope to see you while passing through and to have you assist me on my journey there after I have enjoyed your company



HOPE

DOWNTOWN



## **It is Finished**

By Florence S. Craig

At the end of the day, I stand accused by my unchecked checklists.  
Endless layers of empty boxes;  
Gaping, mocking squares that scream at me to  
WORK HARDER  
BE BETTER  
CLEAN UP  
Until I finally creep into bed each night like a guilty child  
To steal my restless, unearned sleep.

And the empty boxes swirl around my head,  
Waiting to renew their onslaught in the morning.

I have a dream that one day I will check every last little box,  
(Even all the boxes that stretch out endlessly into the past and future),  
And suddenly the world will break into an angelic chorus,  
And I will proudly march up to the throne of God,  
Holding my list before me like a royal proclamation—  
“It’s finished!” I’ll shout,  
And God will clap with delight, sweep me into His arms,  
And tell me that I’ve been such a good girl,  
That He always knew I could do it,  
And He will welcome me home into His Rest at last!

But today, all that I have to offer  
Is a list and a life full of unchecked boxes,  
And a messy house,  
And an even messier heart,  
And a sinking conviction  
That my checklist will never, ever be finished.

I wonder how Zaccheus felt  
When you told him that you were going to his house today.  
“But I haven’t had a chance to clean up!”  
“Exactly.”

Maybe these empty checklists  
Are exactly the gift that you have been waiting for.  
Maybe you are just waiting for me  
To put down the dishes,  
Sit down at your feet,  
(Next to my pile of unfolded laundry),  
And listen to you say to my heart,  
Child,

*It is Finished.*

Handwritten notes on the left page, including:

- recycle
- return
- update
- Wash
- Remain New
- Clean
- Fill
- Find gift
- Call
- Return
- Clean
- tax
- spi
- Transplan
- Order
- NOTE
- ate Budgeting
- weeks list
- AU

Handwritten notes on the middle page, including:

- credit
- confirm
- Make
- Don't
- BUY MILK
- CHRIS
- MEAL PRE
- SW
- RESPOND TO
- YOU NOTES
- TAXES
- FINISH
- COMMISS
- FINANCE
- AUNDRY
- MAKE DINNER
- ASH



Handwritten notes on the right page, including:

- Clear em
- St
- Check in
- Schedule
- Write check
- Organize
- Clear out
- Give away
- FINANCE

# Gospel Application

What story am I living in?

Where are my plans not open  
to God's interruptions?