

April 1, 2022

Here's Hope  
by Rev. Jerry Rea

### **His Plans Are Bigger Than Mine**

If we could only believe, I mean really believe that His plans are bigger than ours. We sometimes worry through our struggles and problems. Then we reach a point where we say, "Well, His plans are bigger than ours." It would be so much better if we began each day with that idea. I have a "to do" list a mile long, but He has a "to do" list for me as well. His ideas are not "penciled in" on my calendar. We say we want to do His will, but then we get so frustrated by interruptions. To us, that's all they are. Could it be that our interruptions are sometimes His timing?

What about this. Do you think you might ever get to the point where you realize that you are not in control? We say we want Him to be in control, but then we hold on so tightly to the reins. Isn't it true that often being diverted from our goals is the best part of the day? You go to the store and get "interrupted" by someone in need. Is that a distraction, or a God-appointment? You settle in to watch March Madness, and then you get a phone call about a prayer need. Is that an opportunity, or a frustration? May God help us if we ever get to the place where we are like the priest and Levite in the story of the Good Samaritan.

You remember that story, don't you? Everyone knows that the Good Samaritan is considered "good" because he helped. Does that not mean that the priest and Levite are considered "bad" (by implication) because they were not willing to be interrupted? I feel certain they had many good things to do that day. I also feel certain that God placed them at that place, and at that time, to help the man in the ditch. Do you think they felt "bothered" by the need before them? Do you think they were just busy? I'm not sure. I do know this. The Good Samaritan had a divine encounter that day. It wasn't up on a hilltop, with a transfiguration experience. It was not on a retreat in Gatlinburg. It was down in the ditch with a fellow human being, in need.

I have immense hope of seeing God in the day to day. I have learned, however, that to experience God I sometimes have to get down in the ditch with hurting people.

I love you, I really do!  
Jerry Rea