Appropriate Your Destiny

♪ You are my destiny; you are what you are to me. You are my happiness, that's what you are. You have my sweet caress, you share my loneliness. You are my dream come true, that's what you are. Heaven and heaven alone can take your love from me. 'Cause I'd be a fool to ever leave you dear, and a fool I'd never be. You are my destiny, you share my reverie. You're more than life to me, that's what you are. You are my destiny, you share my reverie. You are my happiness, that's what you are. ♫

(Paul Anka, 1958; see http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IrBTFdVZxgs)

Our destiny is our appointed or ordained future. Our destiny is what God has predetermined you to be and to become, in His Divine Will. Before Yeshua everyone had his own private and individual destiny. Some fulfilled their God-appointed destiny and some did not. Some Biblical Examples of people who did not fulfill their destiny include: Saul, Samson, Solomon and Uzziah (He had the greatest reputation in Judah, second only to Solomon). How tragic! In the Hebrew Scriptures the first mention of ‘destiny’ (גְּרָל, goral, Hebrew, Strong’s 1486) is in Leviticus 16 in conjunction with Yom Kippur’s azazel, ‘the scapegoat’: “Aaron will then cast lots for the two goats—one lot for Adonai, and the other lot for the scapegoat.” Aaron is to present the goat on which the lot for Adonai fell and make it a sin offering. But the goat on which the lot for the scapegoat fell is to be presented alive before Adonai, to make atonement upon it, by sending it away as the scapegoat into the wilderness” (Leviticus 16:8-10). Also in Psalms 16:5 “Adonai is my portion and my cup. You cast my lot (goral, destiny).” In the song “Those Who Trust in the Lord” which we sing often in Kol Simcha from Palm 125 we sing the phrase “al goral hazadikim”: “For a scepter of wickedness will not rest over the inheritance (goral, destiny) of the righteous—lest the righteous set their hands to evil.” The only mention of “lot” or “destiny” in the Berit Chadasha is in Luke 1:9: “According to the custom of the priestly office, it became his lot (2975 lagchano, his destiny) to enter the Holy Place of Adonai to burn incense.” Zechariah fulfilled his destiny so we have the story of Yochanan the Immerser and Yeshua.

Do you know that you and I have a destiny in Messiah Yeshua? Without a shadow of a doubt we have a destiny in Him because God has a special purpose for our life. In fact, individually and collectively we have a glorious purpose in Him. At Calvary, God gathered up all the individual destinies of humanity into one purpose – this includes all of us in Kol Simcha. We have a collective (group) destiny in Yeshua: “The plan of the fullness of times is to bring all things together in the Messiah—both things in heaven and things on earth, all in Him. In Him we also were chosen, predestined according to His plan. He keeps working out all things according to the purpose of His will — so that we, who were first to put our hope in Messiah, might be for His glorious praise” (Ephesians 1:10-12). What is our predetermined destiny (pre-destination)? Again we read in Ephesians 1: “He chose us in the Messiah before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless before Him in love. He predestined us for adoption as sons through Messiah Yeshua, in keeping with the good pleasure of His will— to the glorious praise of His grace, with which He favored us through the One He loves!” In Him we have redemption through His blood—the removal of trespasses—in keeping with the richness of His grace that He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight, He made known to us the mystery of His will, in keeping with His good pleasure that He planned in Messiah” (Ephesians 1:4-9).

What are some of the details of this special purpose He has for us? Among these we have (1) the adoption of sons: “For you are all sons of God through trusting in Messiah Yeshua. For all of you who were immersed in Messiah have clothed yourselves with Messiah. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female—for you are all one in Messiah Yeshua. And if you belong to Messiah, then you are Abraham’s seed—heirs according to the promise” (Galatians 3:7, 26-29); (2) the mystery of His Will: “that the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote before briefly.” When you read this, you can understand my insight into the mystery of Messiah—which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations, as it has now been revealed by the Ruach to His holy emissaries and prophets. This mystery is that the Gentiles are joint heirs and fellow members of the same body and co-sharers of the promise in Messiah Yeshua through the Good News”
(Ephesians 3:3-6); and (3) to be filled up with the fullness of God: "14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father—15 from Him every family in heaven and on earth receives its name. 16 I pray that from His glorious riches He would grant you to be strengthened in your inner being with power through His Ruach, 17 so that Messiah may dwell in your hearts through faith. I pray that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to grasp with all the kedoshim what is the width and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Messiah which surpasses knowledge, so you may be filled up with all the fullness of God” (Ephesians 3:14-19).

Are we living with the fullness of His Life or are we “just making it.” Whenever I pray for someone, I always remind us “Yeshua came to give Life and Life more Abundantly.” The Scriptural quote is: “The thief comes only to steal, slaughter, and destroy. I (Yeshua) have come that they might have life, and have it abundantly!” (John 10:10) Are you living in abundance as a child of the King? The king’s children must certainly live in plenty, wealth, richness, copiousness, lavishness and certainly not in scarcity. If we are living in Him fullness we would feel and act like children of the Sovereign of the Universe, which we are. I suspect many of us are not having much fun, or surrounded by joy and laughter while enjoying the benefits of such a lifestyle. Anything less than an abundant life is NOT what Messiah Yeshua paid for us to obtain. It pleases His Father (and our Father) to give and treat us like who we really are in Messiah – His children! Yeshua is the Way, the Truth and the Life: “Yeshua said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life! No one comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6). The truth is inside of us and we are to live accordingly and we walk with Him who is the way. His way is not defeated, lacking in power, double minded, unstable in our ways, weak, vulnerable and sickly. We have got to experience a metamorphosis of our mind and begin to think and process information based on whom we really are. Our minds need to repent (turn around and go the other way) if we are not experiencing a victorious and abundant life in Yeshua. I am not talking about religion, or a Christian or Messianic experience, but instead a real honest to goodness daily experience. Who told you that you are weak, or sick, or entrapped by addictions, or maxed out in your resources, or unable to share with others because of being poor? Certainly Yeshua did not say anything remotely close to this. Are we dying? He is the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25) so that even if anyone dies he shall live. The power to bring forth from death is in and with Yeshua, and He is with us even until the end of the world. Who told you that you have to stay in sickness? He is our healer. Who told you that you are weak? In my weakness I am strong in Him. Who said our God is not able? In Him I am able to do all things. As we go forward we need to continually declare His truth about us: we are the Children of the Sovereign of the Universe.

Yeshua in us is the hope of glory: “God chose to make known to them this glorious mystery regarding the Gentiles—which is Messiah in you, the hope of glory!” (Colossians 1:27) Therefore we are not hopeless. Do we wait to die in order to experience the hope of glory? No! I am currently seated with Messiah Yeshua in heavenly places. There is no anxiety in heaven and neither is the heavenly economy broken. My better than platinum heavenly credit card has an infinite limit and it is never rejected. I have access to heavenly resources and as such I am able to share and give the very best (Hallmark). His angels accompany me everywhere I go and my cellular and data plan is infinite. The Messiah is in me and I am always able to share Him and bring life into any situation. I am a bearer of good news.

If Yeshua did not bring all this negativity or calamity and despair to us, who did? Is it not the enemy of God and our souls? But we have Adonai’s promises concerning the enemy’s destiny: "3 The nations will rush in like the rumbling of many waters, but He will rebuke them so they will flee far away, chased like chaff on the hills before the wind, like whirling dust before the storm. 14 At evening time—sudden terror! Before morning, they are no more. This is the reward (goral, lot) of those who plunder us and the lot of those who pillage us” (Isaiah 17:13-14). "24 "Therefore I will scatter them like drifting straw in the desert wind. 25 This is your lot, the portion measured for you from Me.” It is a declaration of Adonai” (Jeremiah 13:24-27). On your feet, it is time to have a changed mind, a changed attitude, and a changed experience. Yeshua is with us! Let us pray…