

## What is God's plan for me?

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According to Wikipedia Encyclopedia and Guinness World Records, the Bible is the top selling book of all times. I was invited to listen in on an interview Thursday where Jack Canfield talked about his strategy that has made him successful as a "best selling" author.

He has used other people's life stories to produce materials that have brought him fame and fortune. He spoke of the amount of work that he puts into promoting his books and the fact that he seeks out and convinces successful people to promote and invest in his materials so that his books will get the attention of prospective buyers.

He actually uses the same strategy that Jesus used over 2000 years ago. Some of the most important facts concerning Jesus are found in Matthew 28:11-28. These Scriptures are the keys that have given birth to hope and faith throughout the world from the time that the events took place. It has changed the world and spurred men and women onward to spread the news of the birth, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ even when their lives are threatened and hardships have come to them because of their testimonies of the work of salvation that is available to all who believe. Satan hates the Bible and he seeks to destroy every person who has faith in Jesus Christ. Fear and intimidation are still the keys that are used to extinguish the spreading of the gospel of Christ Jesus. However the Holy Spirit gives strength and courage to move forward and heed the call to join in the army of the Lord.

Jesus had risen from the dead and the soldiers who had guarded the tomb were aware that a miracle had taken place for they were eye witnesses to the event of the resurrection of Jesus from death's grip. They had shaken with fear of Jesus and had become as dead men. The women followers had learned that his body was missing when they came to see the sepulcher. There had been a great earthquake for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone from the door and sat upon it. The women were afraid as an angel of the Lord spoke to them and told them that he knew that they sought Jesus who was crucified, but He was not there for He had risen from the dead just as He had declared He would. They were invited to "come and see the place where the Lord lay." They were told to go quickly and tell his disciples that He had risen from the dead and He was going before them and would meet them in Galilee. The angel ended the conversation with "Lo, I have told you." The Scriptures say that they left with fear and great joy and they ran to bring his disciples the word. As they ran, Jesus met them and said, "All hail." They came and held him by the feet and worshiped him. He repeated the instruction that had been given to them by the angel, "Be not afraid; go tell my brethren to go into Galilee and there they shall see me. The opposing spirit was also at work. The keepers who had been hired to watch over the tomb so no one could steal the body of Jesus and deceive

people into believing that He had risen from the dead, were at this point and time headed back into the city to declare to the elders what had taken place. They had a “firsthand account” of the resurrection of Jesus Christ for they witnessed the event. They had been hired by the chief priests for they were not followers of Jesus and they would have no reason to be involved in a trumped up story of something that hadn’t actually taken place. Those who hired them to guard the tomb had done everything possible within their power to prevent Jesus from coming out of that grave. It took a great earthquake and an angel from heaven to move that stone. It was for the purpose of evidence that the stone was removed. Jesus didn’t need the stone removed for him to come out. It was for the people’s benefit that the stone was removed. The keepers believed what they saw. They went to the city and told all the truth, leaving nothing out, to the chief priests. The elders met with the chief priests and they took counsel and decided that much money would be needed to entice these men to lie about what they had seen. They were to declare that the disciples came by night and stole him away while they slept. And if the governor should get wind of the story, the chief priests would persuade him to overlook the incident and the chief priests would protect them so no harm would come to them.

Corruption by pay offs with money, lies and deceit are still the route that governing authorities use to cover up the truth even to this day. At the time that the book of Matthew was written, that was the story that continued to circulate among the Jews.

There are only two sides that people can take in this world. We either are on the side of speaking the truth of God’s word or we are on the side of compromise (liars) that leads people astray. Jesus met the disciples in the same mountain as he had appointed them over three years before. Anything that is said to lead people to come to a certain conclusion that is not the truth is a LIE. All liars will have their part in the lake of fire. Revelation 21:8.

In Matthew 28:19, Jesus said, “All authority is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore and teach all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and lo I am with you always even unto the end of the age”.

The Bible warns us to “Beware of false teachers.” We are instructed to search the Scriptures so we can rightly divide the word of truth. Be careful of motives for Satan uses three things to contaminate people; the desire for power, pride, and lust of the flesh. God’s plan has never changed; he is still sending workers out in the vineyard to call men to repentance and right living. The word of God changes lives and this book is powerful in redeeming the souls of mankind. God calls us to live holy before him, to seek the lost and spread the word that there is hope, healing and peace that comes through faith in Jesus Christ. Do you believe?