"Good afternoon again, everyone. If you have your Bible, go ahead and turn to the book of 1 Corinthians chapter 2.

Today, I want to talk about a topic that strikes a chord deeply with so many of us. As we all go through life, If you're like me, we often encounter moments of doubt and discouragement.

Sometimes we might look at our current circumstances and wonder if this is all there is. But I want to assure you that God's plans for us are far greater than we can ever imagine.

The Bible is filled with promises of hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11 reminds us, 'For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.' This verse assures us that our current situation is not the end of the story. God has a plan, and it is a plan for good.

As we get into today's message, let's open our hearts and minds to the possibilities that God has in store for us. Let's embrace the truth that our best days are ahead, and that with faith and perseverance, we can move beyond our present challenges to a future filled with His blessings."

1 Corinthians 2:9-13 (KJV)

<sup>9</sup> But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

<sup>10</sup> But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

<sup>11</sup>For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

<sup>12</sup> Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

<sup>13</sup>Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

For the next 15 or 20 minutes, or until you get tired of listening, I want to share with you the message that:

This is Not as Good as Good Will Get

This afternoon, I want to explore A deep-seated truth That's found in the scriptures -

It's a truth that reminds us that no matter how good things may seem right now, they are **not as good as good will get.** 

This truth, That's both humbling and inspiring, serves as a beacon of hope in our journey of faith. It's a truth that gently reminds us that no matter how good things may seem now, they are just merely a glimpse of the divine goodness that is yet to come.

As we navigate through the ups and downs of life, we often find moments of joy, peace, and fulfillment.

But these moments, as beautiful as they are, are just a sample of the heavenly splendor that the Lord has prepared for us. Amen?

#### Exposition

The Apostle Paul, in his first letter to the Corinthians, shares a profound truth.

He tells us that no eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him.

This is a powerful statement about the future That God has in store for us.

This passage is a testament to the **incomprehensible greatness** of what awaits us. It emphasizes that our human senses, our eyes and ears, and even our minds, are incapable–Yes They are not capable of, They are unable to, And they lack the ability To fully grasp the glory that God has prepared for us. Amen?

It's beyond Our highest hopes, It's beyond our wildest dreams, It's beyond our deepest thoughts, and beyond our most vivid imaginations.

But this doesn't mean we should just stop dreaming or imagining. On the contrary, it encourages us to dream bigger, to hope more, and to strengthen our faith.

Because the reality that awaits us in God's presence, is far greater than anything we could ever conceive.

And this promise is not just for the distant future. It's also for the here and now.

God is constantly at work in our lives, He is shaping us, He is guiding us, And He is preparing us for the glorious future That He has in store. Every trial That we go through, every victory that we achieve, every moment That we experience, is a step towards that unimaginable reality.

And let us not forget, That this journey is not a journey That we take alone.

God is our ever-present guide, our steadfast companion, And a friend That sticketh closer Than a brother. Amen?

His love is the compass that directs us, And His grace is the wind that propels us forward. With each step we take, we move closer and closer to the realization of His glorious promise.

In the face of trials, we are refined, like gold in the fire, emerging stronger, purer, and more resilient.

In moments of victory, we catch a glimpse of the divine glory that awaits us, filling our hearts with renewed hope and joy.

### The Limitations of Our Perception

Our human senses are indeed limited. We can only see so far, We can only hear so much, and we can only understand to a certain extent.

That's because God's plans and His blessings are beyond our comprehension. They are inconceivable, And absolutely impossible For us to understand.

There is not One single person On this planet; That has read enough books, That has went to school long enough, That has went to school long enough, That has earned enough diplomas, That has the brilliance And the intelligence, Or the mental capacity To understand the blessings That God has prepared for us. Amen?

They are more wonderful And glorious than Anything we Could ever imagine This is the hope That we have in Christ – a future so bright, And a future so beautiful, that it surpasses our wildest dreams. Our thoughts Can surpass our words, but God's power to act surpasses it all.

When we consider the immensity of the universe, And the countless stars in the night sky, each one of them Is a testament to God's infinite creativity and power.

Now, imagine If you can, that the *same* God, who crafted each of those stars, has a plan for you that is just as intricate and just as beautiful. Friends, Our minds, as wonderful as they are, can only comprehend a tiny fraction of God's grand design.

It's as if We are looking Through a blurry window Only seeing Teeny-Tiny microscopic bits and pieces, of the whole view.

But one day, we will see face to face, The absolute Glory of God! One day, the full beauty and full glory of God's plan will be revealed to us. Amen?

We should long for the day When we can stand before God, And hear Him say, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. But, in the meantime, we must continue To walk by faith, And not by sight.

We trust in God's promises, even when we can't see the path ahead.

We hold onto the hope that no eye has ever seen, That no ear has ever heard, and no mind has ever conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him.

And friends, let's not be discouraged And let's not be down in the dumps over the limitations of our human senses. Instead, let us rejoice in the knowledge that God's plans for us are far greater than anything we could ever imagine.

Let us look forward with eager anticipation to the glorious day when we will fully experience the depth of God's love, and the magnitude of His blessings.

I said it earlier, I'll say it again, And I'll keep on saying it, **That this is not as good as good will get.** The best is yet to come!

### The Promise of a Better Future

The promise of a better future is not just for the life to come, but it's also for our life here on earth.

God has plans to prosper us, to give us hope and to give us a future.

He wants to bless us abundantly more than we could ask for or ever think about.

But these blessings are not just material or temporary. These blessings are spiritual and eternal. They are blessings that satisfy the deepest longings of our souls.

In this journey of life, We are not alone. God walks with us, guiding us, and leading us towards His divine purpose.

He is our shepherd, leading us to green pastures, and beside still waters. He restores our soul and leads us in the path of righteousness. p Even though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, We fear no evil, for God is with us. His rod and His staff, they comfort us. Amen?

God's blessings are like the rain that falls on the just and the unjust alike. They are like the sun that shines on the good and the evil.

They are not dependent on our worthiness, They are dependent on His goodness.

His love is unconditional, His mercy is unending, and His grace is sufficient for all of our needs. God's blessings Are like a gentle breeze That caresses Both the face of the believer, And the face of a sinner.

They are not earned by our deeds, They are gifts Of his unlimited generosity.

They are not rewards For our righteousness, They are expressions Of his infinite love.

But hear me out: God's blessings are not just for our enjoyment. They are also for our enrichment. They are meant to transform us, And to make us more like Christ.

They are meant to produce in us the fruit of the Spirit: Love that is unconditional, Joy that is contagious, peace that surpasses all understanding, patience that endures, kindness that uplifts, goodness that is evident, faithfulness that is unwavering, gentleness that is soothing, and self-control that is admirable. So let us not just seek God's blessings for our own sake, but let's seek them for the sake of His eternal kingdom.

Let us use them to bless others, And let us use them to show God's love to the world. Because it is more blessed to give Than it is to receive.

And as we give, we <u>will</u> receive, pressed down, shaken together, and running over. Remember, the blessings of God are not just for this life, but they are also for the life to come.

They are not just for our happiness, They are also for our holiness. They are not just for our comfort, They are also for our character. They are not just for our pleasure, They are also for our purpose.

So let us seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto us. For where our treasure is, there our heart will be also.

## The Role of the Holy Spirit

In verse 10, Paul tells us that God has revealed these things to us by His Spirit.

The Holy Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

He reveals to us the truths of God's Word and the promises of His heart.

He gives us a glimpse of the glorious future that awaits us.

In verse 11, Paul continues to expound on this revelation by asking, "For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God." This is a profound truth that emphasizes the unique role of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Just as our spirit within us knows our deepest thoughts and desires, so too does the Spirit of God know the depths of God's heart.

In verse 12, Paul assures us that "What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us."

This is a beautiful reminder that as believers, we are not guided by the spirit of this world, We are guided by the Spirit of God. He has been given to us so that we might fully comprehend the wonderful gifts that God has bestowed upon us.

And in verse 13, Paul declares, "This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words."

Here, Paul is emphasizing that the wisdom we share is not of this world, but is from the Spirit. We are not merely sharing human wisdom, We are sharing divine truths revealed to us by the Spirit.

These truths are not always understood by everyone, but to those who have the Spirit, They are life and peace.

Let's continue to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in our lives, allowing Him to reveal to us the deep things of God, and to teach us the truths of His Word. Let us remember that it is not by our own understanding, but by the Spirit that we can truly know God and all that He has prepared for us.

Let us hold on to this hope. Let us remember that no matter how good things may seem now, they are **not as good as good will get.** 

God has prepared something far better for us – something our eyes have not seen, Something our ears have not heard, and something our minds have not conceived.

And He has given us His Spirit to reveal these things to us. Let us live with this hope, walking in obedience to God's commands, and looking forward to the glorious future He has prepared for us.

For truly, this is **not as good as good will get.** 

# Closing

If you can hear my voice today, If you have been listening to this message, I want you to listen to the words of the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 13:12, Paul says 'For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.'

We all have moments of weakness, times when we fall short of God's glory. But today, I implore you to seek repentance. I plead with you to ask forgiveness. As Acts 3:19 tells us, 'Repent ye therefore, and b

As Acts 3:19 tells us, 'Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.' It's not just about feeling regret, but about turning away from our sins and turning towards God. Right now, I want you to say "Lord, I tried things my way." "I did things the way I wanted to do them." "But I have come to the realization that without you, this is as good as it gets." "And I realize now Lord that with you, this is NOT AS GOOD AS GOOD WILL GET. I realize that the best is yet to come!"

I ask that you use this moment to ask for forgiveness, to repent of your sins, invite the Lord into your life, and to pledge to live a life that reflects faith in Christ.

Remember, through repentance, You open the door to God's forgiveness and grace. It's never too late to start anew. This 'good' that I preached about today, is not as good as it will get. Through repentance and faith in Christ, You can reach for that 'great' that is yet to come.