

Thursday, March 4, 2021

**Jeremiah 29:11 – 13 (New International Version)**

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

Theophane the Monk, ***Tales of a Magic Monastery***

*The Pearl of Great Price*

*He asked me what I was looking for.*

*“Frankly,” I said, “I’m looking for the Pearl of Great Price.”*

*He slipped his hand into his pocket, drew it out, AND GAVE IT TO ME. It was just like that! I was dumbfounded. Then I began to protest: “You don’t want to give it to me? Don’t you want to keep it for yourself? But...”*

*When I kept this up, he said finally, “Look, is it better to have the Pearl of Great Price, or to give it away?”-*

*Well, now I have it. I don’t tell anyone. From some there would just be disbelief and ridicule. “You, you have the Pearl of Great Price? Hah!” Others would be jealous, or someone might steal it. Yes, I do have it. But there’s the question: “Is it better to have it, or, to give it away?”*

*How long will that question rob me of my joy?*