

# Shaping the Future

A retired French lawyer struck a deal with a 90-year-old widow. For a payment of \$500 per month to her until she died, he bought the rights to take over the lease on her fashionable apartment.

At her age, it looked like a shrewd investment. In 1995, or 30 years and \$180,000 later, he was still paying – when she turned 120!

As we have embarked on 2017, just over a month into it, what is ahead for us gets a lot of thought and conversation. The future rarely turns out the way we think it will, so our best efforts to predict it ought to be regarded lightly.

But there is one perspective on the future that is a sure thing: God's perspective.

Consider King David, for example. The days of his kingship over Israel were coming to a close. The nation was preparing to build a great temple for God, and Solomon, David's young son, was ascending to the throne.



Dr. David Jeremiah, senior pastor of Shadow Mountain Community Church in El Cajon, California, writes about this moment in time in his book *Turning Points*: “Instead of predicting or worrying about the future, David did the right thing: he prayed about it. He prayed for the people and he prayed for his son, that God would bless them and keep them faithful.”

What great advice! Shape your future, and your family's future, as we proceed in this New Year by committing everything to God in prayer.

The only future that is a sure thing is the one to which God has said yes.

*The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps* (Proverbs 16:9 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter