Hegel defends the thesis that a proper philosophy of history must rely on the idea of purpose. He insists, moreover, that not any idea of purpose will do. If our philosophy of history is to qualify as a genuine “science”, our narrative must reveal connections that are somehow “necessary”. Our philosophy of history can only satisfy this condition, however, if the idea of purpose unifying our narrative is of the right kind. Our idea of purpose, Hegel says, must be “internal” or “inner” versus “external”. In this lecture, I explore Hegel’s treatment of this distinction. I identify features of the internal purpose that, in Hegel’s view, unifies events of world history in a narrative that is “necessary”.