

The Ultimate Reason for Existence

1

Central Truth:

God created you to glorify Him with your life and through it, to point others to Him.

INTRODUCTION:

Many people believe that human life on earth is arbitrary—directionless, random, and guided by fate. There is much confusion surrounding the meaning of life and the destiny of mankind. However, God gives us much clarity on this issue within the pages of His Word—*The Bible*.

1 WHY ARE YOU HERE?

You are not an accident—God created you and knows you intimately.

Read Genesis 1:26-27

Genesis is the “book of beginnings”. According to this text, from where does mankind find his beginning?

What does this passage say about the uniqueness of human beings?

Read Psalm 139:1-6 and 13-16.

In verses 1-6, David lists several areas of his life which God intricately knows. What are some of those areas?

According to Psalm 139:13-14, how should you respond to the personal way in which God created you?

Long before you were conceived by your parents, you were conceived in the mind of God. He thought of you first. It is not fate, nor chance, nor luck, nor coincidence that you are breathing at this very moment. You are alive because God wanted to create you!*

—Rick Warren

You have a reason for existence.

Read Isaiah 43:7.

For what purpose did God create you?

One of the most beautiful truths regarding God's creation of you is that He not only creates you, but He also gives you a purpose—and that purpose is to live your life in a way that brings glory (or worship) to Him and points others to Him.

glorify God—the act of giving praise and glory to God.

Dr. John Piper illustrates it this way:
“God created us for this: to live our lives in a way that makes Him look more like the greatness and the beauty and the infinite worth that He really is.” *

How does knowing you were created by God with this purpose change the way you view your life?

2 THE BAD NEWS

Sin prohibits you from bringing God glory on your own.

Read Romans 3:9 & Romans 3:23.

According to these two passages, how many people are sinful?

Read Psalm 51:5.

According to David, at what point is a person a sinner?

Being a sinner is so much more than simply doing bad things or offending our fellow man. The gravity of our sin is not having a dirty mouth, being promiscuous, or directing anger at someone in traffic. Sin's severity is rooted in our independence from our Creator. This is indicative in our haphazard approach to life where instead of recognizing God for who He is—the eternal, supreme, holy Sustainer of the universe—mankind ignores these truths, lives independent from Him, and steals His glory by giving acclaim to the ingenuity of mankind. This is humanity's greatest affront to his Creator and the primary indictment of which every person must give an account before God.

In each of these verses, we learn that no person can even accomplish the purpose for which he was created. Why? Because of sin. Simply put, God is holy and perfect. Mankind is sinful and imperfect. Holiness and sinfulness cannot be in relationship with one another. Therefore, sin separates you from God prohibiting you from fulfilling God's purpose in creating you.

As a result, you are sentenced to death (eternal separation from God).

Read Romans 6:23.

wages—a payment.

If you were to work 40 hours at the local fast-food restaurant this week, you would be given your wages at the end of the week—your payment for the work done. In the same way, your payment for sin is death (or eternal separation from God).

There is nothing you can do to merit a right standing with God.

We have all heard the statement, “Good people go to heaven and bad people don’t.” As a result, we try our best to live a “good” life, performing “good” deeds with the hope that in the end our “good” will outweigh our “bad”, therefore propelling us into eternity with God in Heaven.

In the past, through what have you tried to earn God’s favor?

Read Isaiah 64:6.

How does the “good people go to Heaven” theory measure up against this passage of Scripture?

According to this Scripture, what “good” works can you do to earn favor with God?

At the end of the day, we want to believe the best about ourselves and people in general. As a result, we carry the mantra of being a really good person. The problem, though, is that the Bible says there are no good people. Jesus, Himself, even says that “only God is good” (Mark 10:18). Sure, none of us are as bad as we could be, but the question is this: “Do we meet God’s standard?” Not only do we not meet God’s standard, but we also can do nothing to merit that standard either.

Regarding mankind, his purpose, and attainment of salvation, how do these truths differ from what is commonly taught and accepted in culture?

3 THE GOOD NEWS

In His love, God sent Jesus Christ to enable you to glorify God with your life and bring you into right standing with Himself. (John 3:16)

Jesus dies on your behalf and pays the penalty for your sins so that you don’t have to.

But God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us!
(Romans 5:8)

According to Paul’s writing, what evidence proves God’s love for you?

Jesus rises from the dead so that you may have a new life.

...just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in a new way of life. (Romans 6:4)

Jesus is the only way for mankind to be in relationship with God.

Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” (John 14:6).

Do these words of Jesus allow room for other methods of reaching God?

This news is incredibly good, but it is not enough to simply comprehend it intellectually or feel good about it emotionally...

In response, you must repent from your sins and place faith in Jesus Christ's work on your behalf..

Repent (or turn away) from your sins.

Read Acts 3:19

In faith, believe on His death and resurrection to bring you into right relationship with God..

Read Ephesians 2:8-9 and Romans 10:9

Confess Him as Lord.

Read Romans 10:9.



Have you previously come to a point in your life when this became a reality in your heart? If not, does this reflect the desire of your heart?

If so...

Then, you can be in right relationship with God right now through Jesus Christ, therefore allowing you to begin fulfilling God's purpose in creating you. You can do this through prayer. Prayer is simply talking with God. Come before Him in prayer confessing that you are a sinner in need of His forgiveness. Repent (turn from your sins). In faith, express your belief that Jesus Christ's work on the cross makes you right with God. Confess Him as Lord.

NEXT TIME...

"Grace: The Gift that Keeps on Giving"...Living a Christian life begins and ends with God's grace. Understanding the role of God's grace in your salvation gives you assurance as you follow Christ.