

The Meaning of Life

Wonderfully Made

*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth
(Genesis 1:1)*

*God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him;
male and female He created them
(Genesis 1:27)*

Every human being is an amazing, awe inspiring creation, wonderfully made with purpose and meaning.

We have been created in the image of God and our Creator is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, and abounding in loving kindness.

He deeply cares for His creation and is intimately involved in every aspect of life in His world.

“A garden is evidence of a gardener, a car is evidence of an engineer and human beings are evidence of a Creator”

The enormous amount of information contained in our DNA displays all the evidence of an intelligent design by an intelligent designer.

Our eyes are one of the greatest optical designs in existence and are the window to our souls.

“When we look into someone’s eyes, we see a living being not a random accident of chance but a soul full of emotions, intelligence and conscious personality”

When we consider a seed is planted and grows to provide food for our nourishment and enjoyment. We must confess that it is truly a miracle of God and living proof that He loves and cares for us.

The Fall

*All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God
(Romans 3:23)*

But the world God created is no longer the Garden of Eden.

Sin has entered God's perfect creation and spread like a disease of the soul to all humanity and caused us to disobey His perfect design.

Sin has caused evil to reign in the human heart and has resulted in a history filled with violence, disease, injustice and death.

**“The Glory of God means, the beauty and perfection of God.
This is how God created us, full of beauty and perfect in love,
and to be in an intimate personal relationship with our Creator and each other
but sin has separated us from God”**

Sin is an attitude of rebellion and hostility towards God and His commands. Sin enslaves us to disobey and disregard all the good things God has for us.

We live in His world, we eat His food and breath His air, yet we live our life and make decisions with little or no consideration for our Creator or His plan and purpose for our lives.

**“Imagine a world where your greatest desire and supreme ambition was to truly love me
as you love yourself, with all your heart!
And imagine if my greatest desire and supreme ambition was exactly the same!”**

This is God's intention for you and me. But every human being falls short of the beauty and perfection of God's original design.

We have all lost the ability to love God and truly love other people as we love ourselves because of this disease in our heart and our soul called sin.

God's Broken Heart

*The LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth,
and He was grieved in His heart
(Genesis 6:6)*

We have caused God to be “*grieved in His heart*”. It is the kind of grief experienced when we lose someone we dearly love.

It is a horrible, unbearable pain and is often described as a broken heart.

This expresses the deep love God has for us and conveys that every life has unimaginable worth and meaning in the heart of God.

God loves people so much that He sent His most precious possession, His only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ to bring us back into a right relationship with our Creator.

“Jesus is the light and the Saviour of the world and came from heaven to earth to reconcile and restore our relationship with God”

The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ displays the unconditional love God has for us.

God displayed His love by making a way for us to be at peace with Him by forgiving our sins through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, so that we may enter into a personal relationship with God and enjoy Him forever.

The Flood

*Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God,
and the earth was filled with violence
(Genesis 6:11)*

The history of the world has repeatedly demonstrated that humanity is committed to destroying itself.

One of the greatest creations humans have made is the nuclear bomb. The corruption in world governments and corporations have resulted in poverty and suffering for billions of people throughout history, and not one nation has been spared from the effects of human greed, injustice and corruption.

God's heart is filled with pain by the evil that sin has brought upon His world.

The world belongs to God and all life comes under His sovereign authority and control.

**“Because of the overwhelming violence and corruption of humanity,
God destroyed the ancient world by a catastrophic flood.**

He did this to save us from ourselves and to stop the endless cycle of violence and pain”

The state of humanity became so evil and desperate that God pronounced His judgement upon the world and ended the suffering of His creation.

God sees every murder, every rape, He hears every lie and argument, and feels the pain in the heart of every living being.

The flood was God's judgement and punishment because of the evil of sin in the world but He saved Noah and his family by His amazing grace and mercy.

**“In the same way, in the future, God will bring His judgement and punishment
upon our present sinful world but by His grace and mercy
God has provided a way of escape by trusting in
the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross for our salvation”**

The Promise

*Through your descendant all the nations of the earth will be blessed,
because you have obeyed Me
(Genesis 22:18)*

400 years after the flood, God made a promise to a man called Abraham and told him that through one of his descendants, God will bless all the nations of the world.

This promise is part of the plan of God to save people from sin and judgement.

In the future, God will again destroy the world when it reaches a state of irreversible corruption and He will create a new heaven and a new earth, perfect in every way and free from sin and death.

**“God has made a promise to save His people from eternal destruction
and make them part of His new creation by the gift of grace
that comes through trusting in the atoning sacrifice of
Jesus Christ on the cross”**

God did not send Jesus into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

Whoever places their trust in Jesus and the forgiveness He has accomplished through the cross, will not be condemned on the Day of Judgement but will be saved to live with Jesus forever.

The Law

*By the works of the Law no person will be justified in God's sight;
for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin
(Romans 3:20)*

As part of God's plan of salvation, evil must be restrained and humanity needs to understand how far we have all fallen short of God's original perfect design.

The Law of God serves this very purpose.

The Law is not designed to save people because sin is a disease of the soul and it makes people slaves to rebelling against God.

**“No one needs to teach a child how to misbehave
or how to lie or be selfish and self centred because it is in our “human nature”.
The human nature we are born with is a sinful nature that naturally rebels against
following God and what is right and true”**

All the evil and suffering in the world can be directly attributed to humanity disobeying God.

War, violence, disease, sickness, poverty and all other kinds of evil are a direct result of people not loving God with all their heart and soul, and not loving our neighbour as ourselves, which is the foundation of the Law (*Matthew 22:36-40*).

The Problem of Sin

*For the good that I want to do, I do not do, but I practice
the very evil that I do not want to do.
But if I am doing the very thing I do not want to do,
I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me.
I find then the principle that evil is present in me,
the one who wants to do good
(Romans 7:19-21)*

Sin is a disease of the soul and has an evil, enslaving control over our lives. Through our conscience, we instinctively know what is right but we often wilfully choose what is wrong.

Sin destroys our freedom and enslaves us to fulfil its sinful desires. It is similar to the effects of physical drug addiction.

**“When we are tempted and accept the temptation in our heart,
sin takes control of our actions and we are set on a destruction course
into doing what we know is wrong”**

Even something as simple as food can yield great addictive power and enslave us to its will.

Sin always promises glory, but just like physical addiction, sin never delivers on its promises. Sin is a deceitful, evil power and its only purpose is to keep us from an intimate, personal relationship with our loving Creator.

The pleasure of sin gradually loses its power to bring us fulfilment and satisfaction. Just like drugs lose the ability to stimulate and a higher dose or more frequent use is required.

“The pleasure sin provided yesterday, will pale in comparison tomorrow”

Like any addiction, sin takes away our freedom and makes us do things that bring regret and shame, conflict and pain. Sin effects our emotions and character, and will ultimately destroy us by making us permanent slaves to its darkness.

In the end, sin leads us to eternal separation from God and we lose all the perfect love, peace and glory God has for us.

The Penalty of Sin

*All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way;
but the LORD has caused the sin of us all to fall on Him
(Isaiah 53:6)*

God wants people to be in a personal relationship with Him. But because of sin, we are all lost and have walked away from living as God designed us to live.

Since the beginning of creation, God has called His people back to Himself. This is the meaning of the word “Repentance”. It means to make a 180 degree change in the direction of our lives.

**“If you are walking south, it means to turn completely around and walk north.
To repent means to walk towards God and not away from Him”**

But sin will not allow us to change direction and walk towards God because all who commit sin are slaves to the power of sin.

Sin enslaves people to naturally rebel against God and not trust Him which inevitably ends in coming under His judgement, wrath and eternal separation.

Before we can walk towards God and be in a loving relationship with Him, we must be set free from the punishment of sin and this means that someone must pay the price for our sin.

Someone needs to die in our place and take the punishment and judgement we deserve for our sins.

**“Jesus Christ has paid the price for our sins by His death on the cross
and secured eternal salvation by His resurrection from the dead.”**

It is the gift of God to have all our sins forgiven so that we can be accepted by God and enter into a personal relationship with Him.

The Price of Freedom

*While we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly...
God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners,
Christ died for us.*

*How much more then, having now been justified by His blood,
shall we be saved from the wrath of God through Him.*

*For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son,
how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved by His life.*

(Romans 5:6-10)

The price of freedom from our sin is the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross.

“On the cross, Jesus paid our debt of sin, so that the penalty and judgement of God
for our sin would be removed from us”

This gracious and merciful act is called “Justification” and it is a gift from God which reconciles us to Himself.

This means that whoever places their trust in the atoning sacrifice of Jesus, will no longer be under the wrath of God on the Day of Judgement but will be accepted by God now and forever, and can begin to have a personal relationship with God through faith in Jesus.

God cannot just forgive sin without the debt of our sin being cancelled. God is holy and to pass over sin without atoning for the consequences of sin would be like a judge forgiving a murderer because he felt sorry for him.

“Because God is Holy and Righteous, sin and evil must be punished
and because of God’s great love for us,
He took the punishment our sin deserves on Himself
by dying our death on the cross on our behalf”

Therefore, we all have a choice; either Jesus pays the price for our sin and rebellion against God or we pay the price for our sin on Judgement Day.

A New Creation

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation;
the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come.
(2 Corinthians 5:17)*

God's plan is to save people and He has announced His plan of salvation as a free gift of mercy and grace for all who will turn away from following their own sinful desires and place their absolute trust by faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

God loved the world so intensely that He sent His one and only Son, Jesus Christ to die as an atoning sacrifice for our sins and God raised Jesus from the dead so that we may be placed in a right relationship with our gracious Creator.

**“Whoever joins themselves to Jesus by trusting with all their heart
that Jesus is the Son of God and has risen from the dead,
will be recognized by God on Judgement Day
and will be reconciled to Him now and forever”**

If you genuinely place your trust in Jesus for your salvation, it means that God has been merciful to you by giving you His Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit will guide you to know God more closely and start to work in your heart to change your character to become more like the character of Jesus.

Jesus came to set us free from our slavery to sin. All people are born with a sinful nature that instinctively rebels against the design and purposes of God.

But God in His mercy and great love in which He has loved us, has made us a new creation in Christ.

Born Again

*Jesus answered and said to him,
"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again
he cannot see the kingdom of God."
(John 3:3)*

The average life expectancy is 82 years and compared to eternity, our physical life span is less than a speck of dust in the universe.

**“Salvation is about the heart and the soul,
the part of us that makes us truly human
and reflects the image of God”**

When Adam and Eve disobeyed God and sin entered the world, sin spread to all who are born from the line of Adam.

In a sense, sin is a spiritual genetic disorder of the soul and we all carry the defective gene of sin from birth.

This is why we need to be “Born Again” to be saved from this spiritual genetic disorder.

We need to be born into the line of the Son of God to become part of a new humanity in Jesus Christ so we can be saved and inherit the new heavens and new earth that God will one day create.

**“God is calling people from every race and nation to be part of His new creation
through the Good News of Jesus Christ”**

Being Born Again means you have placed your trust in Jesus and have been adopted as a child of God to receive an inheritance in heaven and enjoy all the blessings and peace that only come through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Call of Salvation

*If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord,
and trust in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;
for with the heart a person trusts, resulting in righteousness,
and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.
(Romans 10:9-10)*

If you will accept the call of God for salvation, you don't need a special ritual or someone to pray on your behalf.

You can pour your heart out to Jesus and talk to Him yourself.

**“Jesus has risen from the dead and is seated at the right hand of God in heaven
and is ready to give the free gift of salvation to whoever will trust in Him”**

If you truly trust in the truth of Jesus in your heart and want to get to know Him personally, you can pray something like this:

- “Lord Jesus, I believe you are the Son of God, and that you died for me and rose again on my behalf, that my sins will be forgiven and I will receive Your salvation
- I am truly sorry for all my sins and I ask you to forgive me
- I repent and turn away from my sins and ask You to help me live a life that is pleasing to You
- I thank you for my life and for Your great love and mercy towards me
- You know everything I need and what is best for me
- I ask you to guide me by Your Holy Spirit and help me to know you more every day
- In the name of Jesus I pray, Amen”.

*May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you.*

Our sincere desire is that you will come to know Jesus as your personal Lord and Saviour,
and that you may have great joy and hope in your life in Him.

If you have found this helpful and would like more information or any help,
please contact us at:

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