

# More than Going through the Motions!



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It is all too easy to *just be going through the motions* of life and not considering that we are on a journey to the other side—one that is forever! Whether assembling at church or doing a virtual service—truly worshipping God is *more* than just going through the motions—it is *trusting* Him and *serving* Him like true believers of the first century did.

The question to ask ourselves: What is God's *purpose* and *plan* for my life here; Is it *more* than just going to school or work; *more* than having friends and playing sports; and more than just doing things we like to do?—Yes, there is *more* to this life than just *going through the motions*—because there is *much* more *after* this life here on earth!

It was once said; *He who provides for this life, but takes no care for eternity, is wise for a moment, but a fool forever.* Most would have to agree. Psalm 14:1 “*The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.*”

For those who are *not* willing to depend on God by faith each day but instead choose to depend on money put aside in a bank, the following applies—Luke 12:20 “*God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?*”

We are all *One Breath Away from Eternity!* That compels us to consider what our heart *attitude* really is—because it *is* of *vital* importance! Proverbs 4:23 “*Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.*”

We should ask ourselves: *Where will I be one-million years from now?* That makes us *think* and *praying* to God for a right heart attitude toward *Him*; toward His *Word*; and toward *everyone*—which certainly includes *trusting* on the Atonement sacrifice of Christ for all that God has promised—health, healing, protection, forgiveness, and all things provided. Romans 4:16 “*Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed*”—the seed of faithful Abraham.

If we asked: *What is the most important thing in life*, many would say: *Family and friends*; or: *Faith in God*—which is a right answer because only by *faith* in God could anyone really *know* where they are going. 1 John 5:13 “*These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.*”

A recent poll stated that 8 in 10 Americans *believe* in an *afterlife*; and almost 80% agree that every person has a *soul* that will live forever—either in God's *presence*, or in His *absence*. With that many believing in an *afterlife*, we would think many *more* would definitely put their *faith* and *trust* in Jesus for every life issue. Acts 4:12 “*Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*”

We do not really think about it, but we all put faith in many things. When we drive, we have *faith* that other drivers will stop; *faith* that a bridge will hold the weight of our vehicle; or *faith* that the mechanic who worked on our brakes did

the work correctly. It's not the *amount* of faith we have, but the *object* of that faith.

We have to be *sure* that we are putting *our faith* in the One who is *true* and will always *be true* and *faithful*. Many believe there *is* life after death—and they believe they enter Heaven by *faith*, but the issue is whether the *object* of their faith is trustworthy or not. The prophet says Isaiah 46:9 “*Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me.*”

Every *day* we are one day *closer* to *eternity* than we were *yesterday!* No one can be wrong about the *next* life; and no one can *ignore* it! Everyone has to ask *God* for *wisdom*, *guidance*, and the *ability* to trust Him by faith. We have *this life* only to get it right; we have this *one opportunity* to be right with God—it is *this* life God has given us—and our *eternity* hinges on our *decisions* in this life.

Joshua 24:15 “*Choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.*” There is only one God to *serve*; one God to *trust*; one faith in Christ to *keep*; and one Holy Spirit who *inspires* faith in God.

Heaven is so *important* to *everyone*, that God has *promised* it to *everyone!*—but everyone has to be willing to *believe His doctrine* and be willing to *trust* in faith in His Son! Believers are promised a *living* Titus 1:2 “*Hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.*”

People in the world are just *not willing* Matthew 23:37 to trust an unseen God; they are *not willing* to put their faith on the atoning sacrifice of Christ; they are not willing to be enlightened by the Holy Spirit of God; and therefore, their *verbal* faith is vain.

There is *more* to this life than just *going through the motions*—it is trusting God every day for every thing. Jesus said, “*How often would I have*” done so many things for you, but Matthew 23:37, “*Ye would not!*”

God has *promised* and Jesus has *predicted*—there *will* be a day of reckoning. We will give an account—Why we lived as we lived; or Why we judged others, but not ourselves. Romans 14:12 “*Every one of us shall give account of himself to God.*”

Jesus *will* return; Matthew 25:33-34 “*And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.*” Those on His *right* hand followed God’s plan of life by faith—because they *knew* it is *more* than *going through the motions*.

Those who did *not* allow God to prepare them—by letting Him take *self* out of their heart and replacing it with His Spirit—are the *unwilling* ones on the left. Matthew 25:41 “*Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.*” That is a serious *price* to pay for being *rebellious* and *unrepentant!*

Everyone *knows* there is a *designer* and *builder* of a skyscraper—we just *look* at the *evidence* and believe it. The best evidence we have of a *designer* is the *work* of a *builder*—and the best evidence we have of a *Creator* is the *work* of His *creation*. Psalm 19:1 “*The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.*”

It takes more *faith* to believe that there is *no* God, than to believe that there *is* a God. Something does *not* come from nothing by itself—but that is what the *world* believes. The Big Bang theory is that a huge *explosion* formed the universe—and is how life began.

The one who conceived the evolution theory admitted: *To suppose that the human eye, with all its incomparable mechanisms for adjusting for focus to different distances; for admitting different amounts of light; and for the corrections of spherical and chromatic variations, could have been formed by ‘natural selection,’ seems, I freely confess, absurd in the highest degree* unquote.

The eye can function from deep darkness to bright sunlight; it can see an object the diameter of a hair. The eye makes approximately 100,000 separate movements a day. Evolution says that *living* matter came from *non-living* matter, but this is known to be impossible. *Life* comes only from *life*.

There cannot be an *effect* without a *cause*; and the effect cannot be greater *than* its cause. Therefore, the only possibility *is* that life came from a living Creator—the God of the universe. After examining the evidence—and just a small part of the total amount of such evidence—we can determine that scientists do *not* have proof for evolution.

We *know* there is a divine *Creator* due to the *evidence* of His existence. We also need to know of His character; love, mercy, and eternal plan for human beings. We *know* that God is the Creator; we *know* that Jesus is the Messiah; and we *know* God is Spirit John 4:24. 1 John 3:8 “*The Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.*” We *also* know that He *will* return.

Beginning life with a rebellious heart that *cannot* enter Heaven—we are reminded of the spiritual work that must be done in us. Romans 5:19 “*For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners;*” but 6:4 “*We are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*”

This *newness of life* is a new life of *trust* on God for life issues; it is *believing* in faith by the power of His Spirit for the forgiveness we need and a right attitude toward everything. Adam brought guilt on us by rebelling; but Jesus removed the guilt by sacrificing—Himself!

There is *more* to life than just *going through the motions*—it is actively putting our faith and trust on the Blood of Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:22 “*For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive*”—when we put our faith in Him for things in this life.

Repentance every day is the issue—because Luke 13:3 “*Unless you repent, you too will all perish.*” Protection from perishing is *only* by an enduring faith on the Blood of Jesus. Everyone gives an account to God—*everyone!* Hebrews 4:13 “*Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight.*” Faith in God is *so* important, because John 5:29 “*They that have done good, to the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, to the resurrection of damnation.*”

There is *more* to life than just living; it is walking by faith every day in the God of the Bible. It is *believing* Him and *trusting* Him for everything, every day. John 5:24 “*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.*” Going through the motions of actual *faith in God* leads to *life eternal!*



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