

# There is a Purpose!



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There is to be a definite *purpose* to our life—although far too many in the world just go through the motions, or they go through life with no real purpose or goal in mind. But there *is* a purpose and there *is* a goal—and there *is* a Heaven as a final home. Eternity is way *too long*; and the lake of fire far *too horrible* to *not think about* the *purpose* and *goal* of life here on earth.

Jesus prayed John 17:17 “*Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*” If we live by the Word and follow the teaching of the Bible, we will live our life by faith in God; we will *know* God personally and we will truly *trust* Him for everything—He will be the focus of our *love* and our *trust*.

Not many have a correct knowledge of God’s plan and purpose for this life. Unfortunately, most think that if they do the best they can; live a reasonably good moral life; belong to a church; donate to charity; and do not harm others, they will go to Heaven—but that is not the entire *truth* of God’s entire *plan*—a plan and purpose that touches every part of our life.

No matter how *sincere* and *honest* and *moral* we may be, it cannot *change* our inward nature. Satan *wants* people to think they are okay because they are outwardly okay, *sincere*, and *honest*. His *purpose* is to *deceive* them and *keep* them in spiritual darkness until it is too late to correct what is lacking. Sincerity and good intentions cannot save anyone—only faith in the Blood of Jesus.

The death of self; the removal of the sin nature; genuine faith in God, and freedom from trusting human plans—is *not known* nor *understood* by the average Christian, due to the fact that God is *not* the supreme object of their *love*. They go through the motions and drift along in life with no real purpose—finally ending in the flames. How tragic!

It is why Jesus *asked* Luke 18:8 “*When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?*” And it is why Jesus *appeared* to the apostle Paul, *converted* his heart, and *commissioned* him to speak God’s Truth to Gentiles.

It was to Acts 26:18 “*To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.*”

Our being *sanctified by faith in Jesus* is not automatic—it is a *choice* of the individual. We must go *beyond* just knowing facts and verses of the Bible—it is to really *know* the *God* of the Bible personally; to *know* what He can *do*; and then *acting* as if we believe that.

A faith that brings deliverance over Satan’s influence in this life, is the only faith that counts—anything less is *not* faith. It would be better to have *no* faith than to just have 2 Timothy 3:5 “*A form of godliness, but denying the power thereof.*”

Jesus warned Laodicea—Revelation 3:15 “*I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.*” Jesus wants us to be totally committed to Him and totally accepting God’s Truth—or totally following the world—be *one* or the *other*, He meant.

The *worst* thing is to mix *the world* with *the Truth*. It is awful to *claim* we believe in Jesus, and

yet hold on to worldly ways, unscriptural attitudes, and rebellion to the Word. Real repentance means really giving up worldly ideas, attitudes, and plans.

Although idolatry is worse today, there were idols in Bible times—when people were sick, they prayed to the idol—asking it to heal them or protect them. Idolatry today just takes other forms—when people are sick, they ask the doctor for prescription medicine—it is idolatry of a different type. Idols in the Bible were too big to swallow.

If we were as moral as Job or righteous as Cornelius—and yet would depend on *anything* or *anyone* else to deliver us from troubles, sickness, or problems we encounter, it would cancel any good about us. The young man who wanted eternal life, was told that he *lacked* something—and that *lack* needed to be corrected if he wanted God’s kingdom. The *lack* nullified the *good* of following *some* of the Commandments.

The young man obeyed *some* but not all—he lacked financial trust on God. Luke 18:22 “*Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me.*”

By saying the man *lacked* one *thing*, Jesus meant that the man *lacked* real *faith*. He did not love God with *all* his heart, nor did he love his neighbor as himself. This lack of love for God and his neighbor was a *critical* lack, as evidenced by what Jesus told a Pharisee.

Matthew 22:36-40 “*Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.*”

The Bible has *one goal*—take a right attitude toward God; a right attitude toward His Word, and a right attitude toward everyone else. If we truly loved God with all our heart, we would always trust Him—even at the risk of our life. If we really loved others, we would treat *them* as we want *them* to treat us.

Jesus' words touched the *idol* in the ruler's heart. This idol was just as serious as if the man bowed to a statue of Buddha—even though the man was attending a synagogue and was living an outwardly moral life. Jesus said Luke 18:22 *"Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me."*

The man's heart *deceived* him. His life choices showed that he did not really care about God, and he did not really care about his fellow-man. The young ruler's possessions meant *everything* to him. When the idol he was depending on and which he loved more than God, was *touched*, his true spiritual condition was *revealed*.

All Jesus asked him to do was transfer his bank account from *earth* to *heaven*, but he would *not do* that and walked away sad—proving that he did *not* truly love God with all his heart and did *not* really love his neighbor either—otherwise he would have *shared* what he *had* with them.

Luke 18:24-25 *"And when Jesus saw that he was very sorrowful, he said, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through a needle's eye, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God."*

That was tough to accept—but it was the *Truth* from God. 26-27 *"And they that heard it said, Who then can be saved?"* to which Jesus responded, *"The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."* Matthew 19:26 *"With God all things are possible."*

Luke 18:28 *"Then Peter said, Lo, we have left all, and followed thee."* They had followed the advice Jesus gave to the young ruler—they had *sold* what they could depend on and *gave* it to the poor—placing their money in Heaven—that is following Jesus.

29-30 *"And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children, for the kingdom of God's sake, Who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting."*

Our repentance and surrender to God has *one purpose*—to give up our *self-will* and to accept His *divine will*. In doing this, we are enrolling ourselves in God's training school and asking Him to teach us how to eliminate all human dependence. We are asking Him to deliver us from every worthless idol—God will *do* that if we will *let* Him.

Ezekiel 36:25-27 *"Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them."*

God not only *delivers* us from idolatry, but He also *adds* a thorough *knowledge* of Himself; a true *relationship* with Him; a perfect *love* for Him; and a total *trust* on His Word. This results in being delivered out of life's troubles and problems. Abraham, Job, Joseph, and others were led away from *human* trust, and taken to a position of *divine* trust on God.

The center of *sin* is idolatry—trusting some *thing* instead of trusting *God*. When an *idol* is removed, all other *sins* go with it—because all other sins are just *fruits* of idolatry. When the *idol* is out

of the way, real *faith* in God is possible. Many think it is fanatical to trust God for money, or trust Him for divine healing, or trust Him for anything else, but it is just commonsense.

Jesus said Matthew 28:18 *"All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth."* To have such *Power* at our side, and *not* take advantage of it—that is fanaticism!

How foolish it is to pay someone to try to heal us, when they cannot heal themselves, and when we have the great God of Heaven by our side and ready to heal us for free—in the present moment.

If we are depending on—or have the *intention* to depend on—anything, anyone, any drug, or any vaccine other than depending on the living God for what we need in life—spiritually, physically, financially, and every other faith issue, it is *idolatry* and *must* be corrected.

If we will give our *heart* and *life* to God without compromise, He will *teach* us, and He will *lead* us to a position of total trust on Him for everything. It will result in a complete *knowledge* of God, and perfect *love* for Him.

Most importantly, an actual preparation for eternal life is included. It will eventually prove that God has never changed; that He is no respecter of persons; and anything He did for anyone in the Bible, He will do for us today. *That* is the purpose of the Christian life of faith in God!



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