

Why Am I Here? (Genesis 2:7)

Open your Bible to Genesis chapter 2 and read v. 7:

“And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.”

Let us for just a few minutes examine the question “Why Am I Here?”

Now that’s a good question, and I can fully understand why someone would ask a question of this nature. Our lives often times are filled with problems. Problems hit us from every sector of life: Family problems, financial problems, health problems, world problems, and life and death problems. Our world is truly filled with problems.

Not only do we ask this question because of problems, but we often ask this question because of all the information that is at our finger-tip. We ask the question, who is right, who has the correct information, what is truth? I often hear these words: surely life was never meant to be so complicated? Why can’t things be simple, why can’t things be true or false, why can’t things be black and white?

Life can have many problems, and life can be very complicated. And added to that, we hear and read reports alleging that human beings belong to the animal kingdom, and that we are just a form, or a higher form of animals with no real purpose. Then the mind begins to ask, why? Why all the suffering, why all the pain, why all the misery, and why all the death. Why? Why am I here if there is no purpose to my life?

Well there is a reason as to why you are here. And I will agree, that life seems full of mysteries. Some of these mysteries are small, but some of these mysteries are enormous – like how did the world come to be?

Scientists and governments spend billions of dollars trying to unlock the mysteries about our world, and about the world’s origins. But their efforts only intensify those mysteries by revealing how much deeper space extends beyond their reach. Philosophers ponder the same mysteries but offer theories rather than firm answers.

But the Bible is the only known book in the world that unlocks these mysteries. In fact, there is no other book in all the world religions like the Bible.

The Bible is the only book written that makes any logical sense. The Bible speaks volumes about how the world came into existence.

One writer said, “Although the purpose of the Bible is to reveal God’s plan to save all who have disobeyed Him, its statements about matters of science have proven to be trustworthy again and again. The Bible is the fully reliable primary source of truth about the world and the purpose of your life.”

There is a purpose to your life, and the Bible give us that perspective on human life.

According to Genesis 1:26-29 and Genesis 2:4-25, God created our first parents and gave them authority over nature, and God also gave our first parents the responsibility to populate the earth. He also provided everything they could possibly need to lead a peaceful and productive life.

Their surroundings were beautiful, idyllic, and serene. There was not one flaw that existed in nature to make life for Adam and Eve laborious, unpleasant, or dull. Their life had purpose and they knew it.

Now let’s read in detail the Genesis account of the creation of animals and the creation of man. With your Bible open, follow as I read from Genesis 1:24-31 of God’s created act on the sixth day of creation.

First, I want you to note that on the sixth day of creation that the animal kingdom was created in the first part of that day, vv.24-25.

Second, I want you to note on the sixth day of creation that man was created in the second part of that day, vv. 26-27.

Therefore, the animal kingdom and man was both created on day six, but they both were created at different times on that day – their creation was altogether separate as God intended it to be – man is not a higher form of animals.

Furthermore, when God created Adam and Eve, He endowed them with His image and likeness. Therefore, unlike animals, we have intellectual, moral, and spiritual capacities. But we do not resemble God physically, because He is a Spirit (John 4:24).

Now note the very important words in Genesis 1:28: “And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.”

I cannot overstate the importance of this verse, and I cannot examine every theological detail that is contained in this verse – we don’t have the time. But I do hope to show you why you are here.

God in this verse having created man and women, pronounced a blessing on them and then gave them their basic purpose for being on this planet that He had created. He first instructs Adam and Eve, and then commissions Adam and Eve.

The first command given to Adam and Eve was to “Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish [fill] the earth. This is procreation – populate the earth. Despite what some tell us about the so-called population explosion, and the need to decrease population growth, we can be sure that God’s command was made in full knowledge of the earth’s ability to support a large population. Even after the flood God gave to Noah and his sons the same command (9:1), a command that has never been rescinded. This is man’s first purpose of being here.

Now in addition to the command for procreation, God instructed Adam and Eve to “subdue” the earth, and to “have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.”

The words “subdue” and “have dominion” are military terms, and means to “first conquer, and then rule.” Now when we in our age think of these words we think of conflict, but in the context of Genesis 1:28 there was no conflict since God pronounced everything “good.”

One Christian Scientist said, “Here is the primeval commission to man authorizing both science and technology as man’s basic enterprises relative to the earth. “Science” is man’s disciplined study and understanding of the phenomena of his world. “Technology” is the implementation of this knowledge in the effective ordering and development of the earth and its resources, for the greater good of all earth’s inhabitants.

... The problem is, of course, that man has failed in his stewardship. Instead of using the earth for good, under God, he has denied God and abused his stewardship.

This primeval commission has never been abrogated (abolished by God) – man is still under its obligations. ... and man would find himself immeasurably more productive and effective in such pursuits if he would only approach them in the reverent and believing attitude of an honest and good servant of his Maker.”

Turn to Psalm 8 and read all nine verses. Now turn back to Genesis 3 and we will discover another reason as to why we are here – fellowship with God. Genesis 3:1-24.

Now we have learned from our study that human beings are on earth because God created them. Also, we learned that God gave Adam and Eve the great opportunity to know Him, to obey Him, and to fellowship with Him. Although many generations have passed since God created Adam and Eve in His own image, and many generations have passed since sin entered the world. But there is one thing that all these passing generations have not changed, and that is God’s purpose for each of us: and that purpose is to know Him and obey Him.

Life apart from God becomes meaningless – nothing really ever satisfies us – we only have short-lived pleasures.

Humans were born with a God-consciousness, and when man rebels against that awareness of God his world becomes chaos and discontentment. So to deal with that discontentment, man turns to the world system for answers, and for a while these answers work, but then chaos and discontentment reappear, and in most cases, bigger than ever.

Life will never have a full and true meaning apart from a God centered life. So, why are we here? To know and obey God.

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