10/7/18 Page 1 of 4

Why Am I Here?

Series: #CreatedWithPurpose

Selected Scriptures

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Life's Three Greatest Questions

I. Question of Existence: Why Am I Alive?

"Why was I born? Was it only to have trouble and sorrow to end my life in disgrace?"

Why did I come forth from the womb to see [a] labor and sorrow, That my days should be consumed with shame? Jeremiah 20:18

"My life has a superb cast, but I can't figure out the plot." — Ashleigh Brilliant

"I hope life isn't a joke, because I don't get it" — Jack Handey

"I don't know the meaning or the purpose of life, but it looks as if something were meant by it."

— Carl Jung

"As far as I can see, there is no purpose." — Isaac Asimov

"I have no answers to the meaning of life and I no longer want to search for any." — Joseph Taylor

There are all tragic statements because a life without purpose isn't a life worth living.

A. Approaches People Take

- 1. The Mystical Approach "look within and find your purpose within."
- 2. The Philosophical Approach "The purpose of life is just to stay alive."
- 3. The Naturist Approach "The purpose of life is just to perpetuate itself."

"The only reason we're here is to reproduce. Just chill out and reproduce. Keep the species alive." — Tracy Lauren Marrow/ICE-T

4. The <u>Hedonist</u> Approach - "The purpose of life is pleasure, have fun party hardy."

10/7/18 Page 2 of 4

5. The <u>Materialist</u> Approach - "Life is about the acquisition of things — your life is measured by what you own."

Being a success and knowing your purpose in life are not the same thing — you can be a raving success in life and still never know, "Why Am I Here?"

You were made by God and you were made for God and you were put here for His purposes — until you understand that, life isn't going to make sense.

B. What Does The Bible Say?

The Lord has made everything for His own purpose. Proverbs 16:4a (GW)

Long before he laid down earth's foundation, He had us in mind and settled on us as the focus of His love, to be made whole and holy by His love. **Ephesians 1:4 (Msg)**

God's Motive: God Made You To Love You! You Were Created To Be Loved By God!

II. Question of Significance: Does My Life Matter?

My work all seems so useless! I have spent my strength for nothing and for no purpose at all. **Isaiah 49:4a (NLT)**

Three Levels of Living:

- Survival Level
- Success Level
- Significance Level

Three Things At This Level:

- 1. You know the meaning of life
- 2. You know how much you matter to God
- 3. You know God's purpose for your life and you're living them out

I am your Creator. You were in my care even before you were born. Isaiah 44:2 (CEV)

You...scheduled each day of my life before I began to breathe. Every day was recorded in Your look! Psalms 139:16 (LB)

God's Motive: You Were Made To Last Forever

This is the key to the meaning of life — realizing that life is preparation for <u>eternity</u>.

When this tent we live in — our body here on earth is torn down, God will have a house in Heaven for us to live in, a home He Himself has made, which will last forever. 2 Corinthians 5:1 (TEV)

10/7/18 Page 3 of 4

Leave your impoverished confession and live! Walk up the street to a life of meaning. **Proverbs** 9:6

III. Question of <u>Intention</u>: What Is My Purpose?

Why did You create us? For nothing? Psalms 89:47

"Unless you assume the existence of God, the question of life's meaning and purpose are irrelevant." — Bertrand Russell

If There Is No God:

- You are a freak chance of nature.
- You are just complex pond scum.
- Your life really doesn't matter.

If you don't know something's purpose, it is likely to be abused.

Knowing God results in every other kind of understanding. Proverbs 9:10b (LB)

God's Motive: I Find My Purpose By Getting To Know God

For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible ... everything got started in Him and finds its purpose in Him. Colossians 1:16 (Msg)

- IV. God Used 40 Days Many Times To Prepare People For His Purposes
 - A. Noah's life was transformed by 40 days of rain.
 - B. Moses' life was transformed by 40 days on Mt. Sinai
 - C. <u>The Spies</u> were transformed by 40 days in the Promised Land.
 - D. David was transformed by Goliath's 40 day challenge.
 - E. The city of Nineveh was transformed in 40 days.
 - F. Jesus was empowered for ministry by spending 40 days in the desert.
 - G. The <u>disciples</u> were transformed by 40 days with Jesus after the resurrection.

The Next 40 Days Are Going To Transform Your Life!

- Some are seekers
- Some are stumblers
- Some are strong believers

10/7/18 Page 4 of 4

It makes no difference who you are or where you're from — if you want God and are ready to do as He says, the door is open. Acts 10:35 (Msg)

"It's never too late to be who you might have been." — George Herbert