

## **Study#1: Why Am I Here?**

Why Am I Here? This seems to be a contemplation in every generation. A comparable question would be, what is the meaning or purpose of life? A reading and study of God's word reveals the answer to this great question!

### **The Origin Of Man**

In answering the question "Why Am I Here?" - we begin with identifying man's origin. The very first verse in the Bible declares, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Gen. 1:1). It would be later, on day six of creation, we read...

*"Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.'" (Gen. 1:26).*

Humanity is of Divine origin! This means YOU are of Divine origin. Man is unique among all of God's creation, because man is created in the image of God. Man has an immortal soul or spirit. There is a part of man's makeup that is eternal. The following Bible references point out the unique nature of man in body and spirit.

- A reading of 1 Corinthians 6:20 reveals, *"For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's."*
- Jesus taught, *"And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell"* (Matthew 10:28).
- James penned, *"For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also"* (Jas. 2:26).
- Note also: Genesis 35:18, 1 Kings 17:22; Ecclesiastes 12:7

David was right when he said, "I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made..." (Psa. 139:14). It was David who said, "The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork" (Psa. 19:1). A design demands a designer and a creation a creator!

## **The Existence Of God**

The answer to our original question requires us to know a little about God. The Bible does not open with some long exhaustive explanation for the existence of God but rather states as a matter of fact or truth that God is, "In the beginning God..." (Gen. 1:1). We learn about God, His attributes, and His character as we study His revealed word and His wonderful and mighty creation!

- **God Is All Knowing (Omniscient).**

*"Do you know how the clouds are balanced, Those wondrous works of Him who is perfect in knowledge?" (Job 37:16).*

*"O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it." (Psalm 139:1-6).*

See also: Isaiah 46:9-10; Romans 11:33-36; 1 Corinthians 2:10-11

- **God Is All Powerful (Omnipotent).**

*"Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You." (Jeremiah 32:17).*

*"And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, 'Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!' (Revelation 19:6).*

See also: Genesis 17:1; 18:14; Jeremiah 32:27; Ephesians 3:20

- **God Is All Present (Omnipresent).**

*"Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me." (Psalm 139:7-10).*

*"The eyes of the LORD are in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good." (Proverbs 15:3).*

The characteristics of God are observed in His creation and throughout the pages of His Divinely revealed word. We also know that God is **loving** (Jn. 3:16), **gracious** (Eph. 2:8-9), and **merciful** (Eph. 2:4). Man would do well to note that the **wrath** of God is just as real as the **love** of God (Rom. 1:18; 1 Thess. 1:8).

We also learn that when God speaks, He means what He says: Study the following examples

- Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden (Gen. 3).
- Noah, the ark, and the flood (Gen. 6, 7, 8).
- Nadab and Abihu (Lev. 10:1-2).
- Moses to speak to the rock (Num. 20:1-12).

## **The Purpose Of Man**

God has blessed me with life on this earth, but why am I here? That is a great question, and we find the answer in God's holy word!

**To Fear God And Keep His Commandments.** The wise man concluded, *"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil."* (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14). To "fear God" is to have the proper respect and reverence for God. To keep His commandments is to obey His authoritative voice.

**To Seek The Lord.** The Apostle Paul taught, *"so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us"* (Acts 17:27).

**Aim To Please God.** The apostle Paul penned, *"Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him."* (2 Corinthians 5:9).

There is a quote, "What we do in life will echo in eternity." Our purpose in the here and now is connected to eternity! There is a heaven (Heb. 11:16; Matt. 7:21), eternal life (Matt. 25:46) and a hell (Mk. 9:47), eternal punishment (Matt. 25:46). In the words of Peter, therefore, since there is a heaven and hell "...what manner *of persons* ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness" (2 Pet. 3:11).

## **For Discussion Questions**

For Discussion #1: Where did man originate from?

For Discussion #2: What makes man unique from all other of God's creation (Gen. 1:26; Matt. 10:28)?

For Discussion #3: Where and or how do we learn about God?

For Discussion #4: Did God mean what He said when He said to man, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die" (Gen. 2:16-17; 3:1-24)?

For Discussion #5: What does God's word reveal about man's purpose on earth?