

LIFE IS ABOUT GOD

Rev. 4:11, *Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: For thou has created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*

When I was a boy about eight years old my father gave me a little Holstein calf to raise for my own. The calf was just a few weeks old. I remember I was so excited. Now, that calf belonged to my father, and he gave him to me. My father owned a small herd of cattle for his own pleasure, and needs. Some of those cattle were milk cows. They provided milk for our household. Some were raised to sell. But, that little Holstein calf my father gave to me. I suppose he wanted me to learn responsibility by caring for that calf. I spent countless hours playing with that calf. He, and I became friends. I would feed him, and pet him. I would go to the barnyard fence, and call him, and he would come. He knew I usually had an ear of corn in my back pocket for him. I named him Jocko.

Now, Jocko didn't understand that life was not about him. He thought everything was just for him. I have seen people like that. They think they are the center attraction, and everyone else is for their pleasure. Jocko would run, and play in the barnyard with the other animals. He could go to the pasture when he wanted, and go to the barn when he wanted. He thought he was in control of his life. What Jocko didn't think about was my father owned all the livestock. They were all completely subject to my dad's will. He had complete ownership, and authority over their lives.

Man is completely under God's authority. He has the power, and He has the right to do with His creation whatever He chooses. Now, people are often like Jocko. People get to thinking life is about what they want. But life is not about what people want. Life is about what God wants. The way to live a happy, successful, and meaningful life, is to not try to fit God into our plans, but for us to learn to fit into God's plans.

WE ARE CREATED FOR GOD'S PURPOSE NOT MAN'S PURPOSE.

A school board in Pennsylvania has been in the news. The school board at a small school at Dover, Pennsylvania voted to require Intelligent Design to be taught as a theory along side evolution. They want students to see the plain, and simple facts that indicate an intelligent creation. They are not trying to teach religion, but they do want students to know evolution is just one theory, and all the facts need to be taught. Well, of course, that created a big stir. The secular crowd immediately objected, claiming when you dare to teach as a theory intelligent design, you are teaching religion. It sounds to me like those folks are just afraid of any kind of information that keeps them from brainwashing kids to believe in evolution as a fact.

In Atlanta, Georgia the ACLU is fighting a school board decision to place a sticker in some textbooks that would inform students that evolution is a theory. Again the secular humanists cannot stand it. Again they do not want anything that will cause students to think, and not accept, without any intellectual honesty, the theory of evolution as a proven fact.

Now, I don't preach a lot about evolution, because I am not an expert in that area, but I have studied, and read some on the subject. I do preach on creation. I believe creation because of two big reasons: First, the Bible tells me God is the creator. Now,

think about it. God is eternal. He was here forever and ever before He created the world. He has a plan for the world. The time the world has been in existence is just a pebble of sand in eternity. Do you think man has any wisdom compared to the eternal God? God is forever. He will always exist. What was He doing before he created the world? He has been doing and planning for eternity. The world is part of God's overall plan. You see. He has a plan. It is ridiculous and foolish for puny little man with his puny little wisdom to think life is about him. Life is about God's plan. Second: my own reason tells me evolution is false. Let me just reason with you for a moment. Evolution is backwards, and denies a basic law of nature. The law of thermodynamics says things are winding down. In other words you start with something, and it gradually deteriorates over time. Now think about it. Can you think of anything in nature that doesn't conform to this law? Scientist tell us the sun is gradually burning itself out. The sun did not begin as a little ball of fire, and then grow stronger and stronger. That's the way things are. Things in this world are governed by the law of thermodynamics. Evolution is backwards. It says the human race started in a primitive state, both physically, and mentally, and we are evolving into something better, and smarter all the time. They believe we came from monkeys, and have evolved into intelligent human beings. Well, if I chose to believe in evolution, I think it would be the other way. Maybe that's why they have never found the "missing link." They have been looking in the wrong place. Perhaps they should be looking for men who evolve into monkeys! Boy, from some of the specimens I see walking around today, I could almost believe that one.

Nevertheless, let me reason with you. Let me ask, did man create the world, or cause the world to come into existence? I think you can figure out the answer to that question. So if man did not create the world it follows that man just simply does not know how the world came into being. Is it true that there is evidence of intelligent design in everything around us? Is the world characterized by order, and design, or is it characterized by disorder, and chance? Let the humanists bring their evidence of disorder, and chance, and I will bring you truckloads of evidence of order and design. Believe me it will be no contest!

Evolutionists would have us believe life came from some kind of accidental spontaneous combustion. They want us to commit intellectual suicide, and believe that everything accidentally came from nothing millions, or trillions of years ago. In other words everything, including the human race, is an accident with no purpose. I reject that! Think of what they are doing to young people with that ungodly deception. I have talked to young people struggling in life. They wonder if they have no purpose. They wonder if life is all just one big accident, and if life has no meaning. Now, you tell those kids they came from an accident, they have no purpose in life, and they are going nowhere. And think it through. That is exactly what evolution is teaching young people. No wonder society is having all the problems it is today. No wonder people are discouraged, and defeated. No wonder alcohol, and dope, and suicide are at epidemic proportions. If you tell people they are an accident, and they have nothing to live for, and they are nothing more than sophisticated animals with no souls, and no moral accountability what do you expect? Listen! Evolution is nothing but a theory concocted to give ungodly people a legitimate sounding reason to reject God! It is the devil's answer for people who don't want to recognize God. It answers no questions. All it does is say things came from

somewhere by accident. Things have no purpose, or meaning, and things, and people have no place to go. Evolution is not about life. It is about death!

The Bible tells us a wonderful, and loving God created everything. God is life and life, all life, comes from God. Life is one of the greatest proofs that God is. There is intelligence, there is design, there is purpose, and meaning. We came from somewhere, and we are going somewhere! Hallelujah! You take your evolution, and I'll take Jesus! I don't mean I believe in God, and the Bible, and creation just because it sounds good, or it soothes my wants. I mean I believe the Bible because it is logical, and it is provable. Where do these people get off trying to pit true science against the Bible anyway? Haven't they ever heard of people like Isaac Newton, or Albert Einstein? These people were some of the greatest scientist the world has ever known. Newton was a Christian, and unashamedly believed the Bible. Einstein certainly believed in intelligent design.

You see, we belong to God! Life is not about what we want. Life is about what God wants! The humanist, and the atheist, and all the rest of that ungodly crowd may not like it. They may try to say man, or some space being, is the highest order of life. They may not want to believe in God, but they are wrong! To them who don't want to believe in the God who owns them I say - tough! There is nothing that will change the unvarnished truth. You are not logical; you are not a true scientist. You are a rebel teaching a false science. You will never come to the real truth, until you understand that man is a created being, and God owns him. God, in His wisdom, and goodness, has given man a free will, and a lot of freedom, but make no mistake, God is the owner, God is the designer, and God is the Judge. Until people understand that life is about God's will, and that His purpose will be carried out in His own way, and in His own time, they will never come to the truth. So much frustration, and pain in life comes from people trying to fit life into their plans instead of surrendering to God, and learning to fit into His plans!

WE EXIST TO FULFILL GOD'S PURPOSE.

Rev. 4:11, *Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*

The Bible says everything is placed here to bring God pleasure. Now, there are a lot of people who just simply refuse to recognize that truth. Many people think they are here to do whatever they choose, and to live however they please. Let me go back to my dad's farm. I had a horse. That horse thought he should be able to do any thing he wanted to. I would try to ride him. I was a young man, and he was a lot of horse. I would try to catch him, and he didn't want to be caught. Sometimes it would take three people to catch him, and put a bridle on him. That horse got mean. He would try to hurt us. He would try to kick us, and he would rare up, and try to trample us. Many times he bucked me off. As I said, he was a lot of horse. He was too much horse for me at that age. I just couldn't handle him. I think he had a lot of fun throwing me off. I don't know why I kept trying to ride that horse, but I did. My dad, and my mom got worried he was going to hurt me bad. Now, that horse was like a lot of people. He had it made. I mean we took good care of him. He had shelter. He had food. My dad was good to all his animals. But that horse just kept being down right mean. One day I came home from school, and I went out to the barn to saddle up for another try, but the horse was gone. You see, my dad got tired of that horse throwing me. He fixed the problem. He said, "Mr. Horse you must not like it here. You must not want to be good to my son. So, I have had enough."

My Dad sold that horse, and the horse found out he couldn't be mean, and get away with it. My dad had complete authority over him. The horse didn't have a vote.

There are a lot of people like that horse. Oh, if people would just stop and think. God is the owner. He sets the rules. When he says He will judge sin He means it. Now you can go ahead, and drink, and carouse, and live like you want. You can not go to church, you can go fishing or go to the races or watch T.V. You can just go on thinking life is about fun, pleasure, work, career or whatever. God in His love has given you a lot of freedom. You can cuss, and live immorally, if you want to. You can go around telling people there is no God, and there is no devil. Yes, God will let you live wickedly for a while. But you better get this in your mind. When God gets enough of your meanness, and rebellion he will put a stop to it. Listen, like it or not, He owns you. Ecclesiastes 11:9 says, ***Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.***

God created us to glorify Him. That is the purpose for our life. That is why the Lord placed everything here. People don't have to go out, and look for purpose. The Bible tells us very plainly. God wants us to use the life He has given us to serve, and glorify Him. Rev. 4:11, ***Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*** The Lord doesn't make people serve Him. He wants people to know He loves them. That is why He sent Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, to die at Calvary for the sins of the world. Jesus arose from the grave, so people who accept Him, and use their life to glorify God, will have eternal life. The Lord loves people, and He blesses people who love him. Psalms 149:4-6 says, ***For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation. Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds. Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a twoedged sword in their hand;***

The Lord has put us here to live for Him. That is our purpose. Now, when we fulfill God's purpose we find happiness. When people rebel, and refuse to fulfill the Lord's purpose they make trouble for themselves. There are a lot of people who just want to think life is about them. They refuse to humble themselves before the Lord, and they just add trouble to their life, and the lives of others. They never find happiness. They never find peace, and they are always troubled. They are trying to make life fit in with their purpose, and folks, it just won't work. They are always frustrated, because they are always trying to put a square peg in a round hole. They are never satisfied. If they have enough, they want more. They can never figure out why life doesn't go right for them. Some of them end up in jail. Some end up ruining their life, and other people's lives. Some of them are respectable, and think they are good people. The truth is they can never quite find what they are looking for. You know the kind of people I am talking about. People who think everyone else was put here to please them. They have to have their way, and they have to run everything. They are struck on themselves. Oh, don't be that kind of person. I'll tell you some Christians need to learn humility. Christians should be self-sacrificing and humble, not vain and self centered.

I know a family. Now they are fine people, but they just do not have time for church. Oh yes, they claim to be Christians. I go, and ask them to come to the Lord's house, and worship the Lord. They always have the same excuses. They are just so busy. He works

all the time. Just doesn't have time for church. When he is off work they go to the lake, and do other things for pleasure. I see the kids running up, and down the street. I talk to them about Jesus. Oh yes they believe, but they have other things on their mind. Do you see what is happening? They are headed for trouble. Right now they have themselves convinced that life is about what they want. Listen folks. Life is not about what we want. Life is about fulfilling God's plan for our life. Don't make the tragic mistake of trying to fit life into your plans. Learn to fit into God's plans. Oh no, it is not easy to make the right choices, and decisions, and live for Jesus, but it is right. Putting God first is the way to true peace, and happiness.

Listen young person, you say I want to go to a certain college. I want to marry a certain person. I want to do this, or do that. The question is what does God want? You can do what you want, and be unhappy, or you can use your life to glorify God, and He will make you happy. I don't mean if you do the Lord's will everything will be peachy, and rosy. No, if you follow the Lord you will find times you must sacrifice. There will be times you will struggle. You will not be exempt from a lot of the troubles, and problems of life. But I can assure you, if you put your life in God's hands, and surrender to Jesus, and live like the Bible teaches, God will bless you more than you can imagine! Life is not about what we want; life is about letting The Lord show us what is best for us. Oh, if you will just learn this one truth, what a difference it will make. Life is about God!

WE WILL BE BLESSED OR CURSED AT THE END OF LIFE ACCORDING TO HOW WE RESPOND TO GOD.

Rev. 4:11, *Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*

Life is not what we make it; life is what we make of it. We have no control over our own destiny. I know that is not what people want to hear. It is not what the world teaches. It is not what the great universities teach, but it is the truth. The only control we have in life is what God, in His grace, allows us. Some have more control than others, but none of us have control of our destiny. Think about it. We had no choice where to be born. How many of you decided to be born in the United States? You had absolutely no control over where you were born. What if you had been born with no legs? Some people are. What if you had been born to a family in Afghanistan, or Iraq that believes you should be a suicide bomber for the terrorists? You would have been taught hate every day. You would have been groomed to kill yourself, and others. What chance would you have to be a college graduate, or a free man, or woman? You see the devil wants man to flatter himself, and tell himself he can control his own destiny. The devil wants people to think they can fit life into their plans. He wants people to think they can get along without surrendering to Jesus, and living for God. The devil wants people to make what they want more important than living by God's Word.

Do you understand what I am trying to teach you? Life is about God and His purpose. It is not about puny little man. The way to find purpose, meaning, and happiness in life, is to glorify the Lord. What if you were a little boy just nine years old, and your father died? Then, just five years later your mother died. When you grew up you were able to go to college. But after a while you were falsely accused, and expelled from college. Are you getting a little bitter about life, and the way life is treating you? How about now? Are you in control of your destiny? But, still you are not deterred. You

have answered the call to the ministry to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. Surely God will part the waters, and make things right for you. But wait. You have severe tuberculosis. What do you do now? I'll tell you what David Brainerd did. He said, I am going to glorify the Lord with my life. I am not going to pity myself, or try to lap up all the worldly pleasures I can. No, David Brainerd said, I am going to America, and be a missionary to the Indians. He did not try to have all the pleasure he could squeeze into life. He did not try to fit life into his plans. He tried to fit into God's plans. David Brainerd died when he was twenty-nine years old. But, he did more in his short life to glorify Jesus than most of us healthy people do in seventy years.

I could speak of Helen Keller, the blind woman who praised Jesus. I could speak about Fanny Crosby, another blind woman who wrote thousands of songs to praise her Lord. I could speak about a dear lady who had Parkinson's disease, and literally shook herself to death. That lady was Lorene Johnson. I went to see her on her sick bed. I watched her shake so hard the whole bed shook, but she raised her hands to heaven, and praised Jesus. The devil did his worst, but he couldn't get her joy. I could speak of sick people, hurting people, people who have endured all the devil could throw at them and people who understood what life is really about. People who, with their dying breath, praised the God who made them. They understood life is about glorifying the Lord. Oh, don't weep for them! They are in Heaven enjoying the blessings, and wonderful things God has prepared for them. They knew they were not accidents, with no meaning, and no purpose, on their way to nowhere! Compare what the humanists, the communists, the evolutionists, the atheists, and any other Jesus haters have to compare with what they had, and what countless saints of God have to day! Oh! You take the world my friend. I'll take Jesus! Life is about God. When we are sick or discouraged we need to remember that truth. Whatever circumstance in life we find ourselves we need to know the Lord is working out His plan. It is often not the way we want things, but we must follow God's plan. We need to do the Lord's will, and that means we must fit our life into His plan.

If we use our life and circumstances to glorify the Lord we will spend eternity in God's Heaven. John 5:28-29, is a scripture I often read at the graveside of a departed soul. For you educated people that is the internment. Listen to the words of the Son of God, ***Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.***

There are two roads in life. A person must choose which he or she will walk. You can choose to accept Jesus Christ, and use your life to glorify God, or you can go your own way, and fight against God. You can follow the road marked by people like Hemmingway, Marx, Dewey, and Manson. You can follow the road littered with unbelief, drunkenness, fornication, adultery, and wickedness. You can believe life is about you. If you choose to follow the devil's road you will one day stand before the throne of God, and hear these words: ***...depart from me, ye that work iniquity.*** (Mt. 7:23)

I read the account of a famous evangelist. He told of a man who came to him after one of his meetings. The man said, "I am a college professor, a teacher of science." He went on to say, "I have listened to you preach each night, and I have come to the conclusion that my problem with Jesus Christ is not intellectual. It is moral. I have been

unwilling to meet the moral requirements of Christianity.” Then he said, “the question I have for you may surprise you. How can I become a Christian?”

Don't try to live life your own way. If you do you will find frustration, trouble, anxiety, You will cause trouble for yourself, and others. At the end of life you will be empty, and vain. Life is not about what you want to do. Life is about what God wants you to do. Maybe God wants you to be a great scientist, or run a great corporation. I do not know, but I do know if you live for Christ you will find the way to greatness is through surrender. Mt. 10:39 says, ***He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.*** The more we fit in with God's plan the more peace, joy, and happiness we find. The more we try to run things the more frustrated we become.

The only way any person can come to God is through Jesus Christ. The only way to find real purpose in life is to accept God's will for our life. Won't you turn your life over to Jesus? Let him direct and help you in your plans. That is the only road that will give you victory. God's plan is the best plan you can ever have in life. The Lord wants you to fit into His plan because His plan is a plan of love. The atheists, the evolutionist, the humanists, the false religions, all tell you of their philosophies and doctrines. ***For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life*** (John 3:16). Life is about God. Let Him show you how to live.