

Your Purpose

Ecclesiastes 1:3 - What advantage does man have in all his work which he does under the sun? A generation goes and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. (NASB)

Last time we looked at our being sons of God versus being sons of the devil which we were before our acceptance of Jesus as Lord.

Now we are going to tackle the next question - what am I here for? If you are in the camp of the ungodly, you have no purpose and all you are living for is futile. "Well", you might respond rather indignantly, "I am a good person, I treat everyone well, I am a philanthropist, a successful person, I have achieved all my goals and I am rolling in wealth. I have all there is to have, my family is happy - no problems on that front. The children are well adjusted and are in good schools. I can see that they too are headed for success! So there!"

I have one question for you - when you are old, the children have left home, you have retired from your job - what then? If you do not live to retire and you step into eternity, where will you be? What good will all your success and wealth be to you? Will you really have been as successful as you thought you were? I'll tell you where you will be - in hell with the devil! You will not have any of the things you worked so hard for! All will be futile.

That job you neglected everything else for - someone else will get it!

The money and property you acquired by unscrupulous means, trampling on others to get to the top - you can't take it with you!

The family you worked so hard to accumulate wealth for - they will most likely splurge it! At any rate it will be in someone else's hands!

Another couple of questions - are you really happy? Do you get up every day looking forward to what it brings knowing that you are an over comer? Do you know that no matter what happens you are protected and sheltered even in the worst adversity?

Are you sure that should there be an economic downturn - which the economists are predicting - that your wealth will sustain you or will your investments be lost?

Right now there is so much uncertainty in your mind I don't think you will sleep tonight!

Your whole life has been futile, a loss, you are not as successful

as you thought you were, are you? Everything you have done is temporary and all your achievements will be forgotten within a short time.

There is no reward. ***Psalm 1:4-6 The ungodly...are like the chaff which the wind drives away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish" (NKJV)***

On the other hand, if you are a son of God, you have a purpose and that purpose will bring you great reward. In Revelation 22:12 Jesus says "***And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.***" God has given each individual a purpose to fulfill on the earth and there will be a judgment for believers based on their performance of that purpose. Just as a student must pass a test in order to gain a degree, even so every Christian must pass the test of the completion of their purpose to gain a reward. What is your purpose? The answer to that is twofold:

- 1) The general purpose of man - to do the will of God. The purpose of God for man is written in the scriptures for all to see.
- 2) The specific purpose for the individual.

We will be dealing with the specific purpose of the born-again believer. God created every human being for a purpose and equipped every human being with the attributes and talents to fulfill that purpose. It has been the devil's number one occupation to prevent every human being from functioning in their divine purpose. You see, if the individual can reach their God-given destiny, then lives will be touched and souls will be saved for the Kingdom of God and that is the last thing the devil wants!

How does the devil succeed in his quest? He does so, for example, by turning the promising craftsman into an alcoholic so his hands and mental focus lose their functionality, ensuring that the public speaker is brought up in insecurity so he cannot stand before an audience. Even those who begin to step into their purpose he attacks by ensnaring them in their weaknesses, such as a love of money, power or attraction to the opposite sex. This is why I believe Psalm 1 is so strategically placed and Psalm

119 is the longest psalm in the Bible - they both stress the importance of God's word in our lives.

The only way an individual can fulfill their purpose on this earth is through a vital (living) relationship with God and meditation on His Word.

There are no seven steps to finding purpose or forty days to purpose or ten steps to successful living. Even though these things may be helpful, our ultimate success can only come through a vital, continuous connection with God.

It is like a pipe through which water is flowing -as long as we are connected to God, the source, all that comes from Him will automatically flow into you, through you and out of you. Purpose will become clear and through the Holy Spirit's revelation and the Word He will show you how to clean any parts of the pipe that are clogged.

In Joshua 1:8 God tells Joshua how to be successful in the purpose for which he was called, but Joshua did not begin to walk towards that purpose after the death of Moses (Joshua 1:1). We see that he had a personal relationship with God for all the years that Moses was leader of Israel. An indication of this is seen in Exodus 33:11 *“Thus the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his friend When Moses returned to the camp, his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent.”*

The only way to fulfill your purpose is through a living, vital relationship with God and hearing clearly from Him. The ultimate way to doing so is to walk by the Spirit of God when you do so, everything else will fall into place.