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Why Am I Here?

By Teresa Hampton

Perhaps every person at one time or another has pondered the question, “Why am I here?” Richard Leider, a noted life coach, said, “The purpose of life is to have a purpose.” We desire to know the reason for our beginning, the value of our present existence, and the purpose of our future. We want to know the reason for our *being*.

The wise man, Solomon, sought the answer to this question. There was no person on earth who had more earthly possessions, fame, and wisdom than King Solomon. But, he finally came to the conclusion that all these things were useless, a blowing in the wind. He said man’s *purpose* in life is not to gain wealth, possessions, notoriety, and insight. At the end of his book of Ecclesiastes he said, “*Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole of man.* Some translations provide the word *duty*, but it is not in the Hebrew text.

The reason we are here, the reason for the existence, the overriding purpose of every man and woman is found in this one verse. It’s not a complicated philosophical explanation. Solomon said the reason is simply to fear God – revere Him, be in awe of His greatness — and obey Him. I am to do what He tells me to do and be what he wants me to be. This is the overriding purpose, then, for the existence of every man and woman, from the dawn of time to the end of time. When we choose to do so, it is a lifetime commitment, which requires daily self-check with His word, helping us know God’s nature and His commands.

As a child of God what is involved in keeping His commands? As a Christian, I am here to worship the Lord, teach others about Him, serve others as the hands and feet of our Lord on earth, and have confidence, joy, and peace in Christ Jesus.

Our beginning is by God’s design, our present existence is of great worth, and our future is purposeful. God wants us to be aware of the reason for our *being*. The Creator has revealed to us that the purpose of life is to have a *spiritual* purpose!

Today’s Verse: *And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul* (Deuteronomy 10:12).

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