

# Our Lives



**What  
Purpose?**

## INTRODUCTION

I am writing this to you on the most important of all subjects - the meaning and purpose of our lives:

**Why are we here? Where do we go after this life?**

Every thoughtful person wants an answer to these questions. You may be busy now, but at some quiet time, do think about this.

*Years ago, a rich man employed a jester at his home to keep him amused. The jester was good at his job and one day his master presented him with a special staff, telling him that if ever he found a greater fool than himself he should give him that staff. Later, the master became seriously ill and, suspecting that he was dying, he called for his servants, including the jester. "I am going on a journey," he said to the jester, "and I will not return".*

*"Have you made provision for the journey?" asked the jester.*

*"No", replied his master.*

*"Then here, take my staff," said the jester. "You are a greater fool than I."*

It is important that we all face up to the jester's question - "Have you made provision for your journey?" Please do not put this away and forget about it. Be assured that this can lead to a decision in your life that will bring you happiness and peace you have never known before.

Guy Jarvie

## FUTILITY

One day you must leave behind every dear friend you have and all your possessions. The Bible says:

*“For we brought nothing into the world,  
and we can take nothing out of it.”* (1 Timothy 6:7)

Solomon - probably the richest man who ever lived - realised this. When he thought of all the treasured possessions he had gathered and must leave behind him, he was very sad. (You can read about him in the book of Ecclesiastes in the Bible). When he thought of the futility of everything he had tried, he “hated life”. He had worked so hard and gathered many things, only to leave them to someone else.

In contrast, think of the happiness that comes to a person who has been blind for many years and then by treatment, or by an operation, is able to see. What a thrill that must be! How different everything must be to that person! The happiness and peace I am writing about here, are like that - only greater! The calm assurance of knowing that you have eternal life; that your sins are forgiven, is like the beginning of a new life. Let us be wise and think about this real life, the life after death.

Firstly we must know God, the only One who can give eternal life...

## WHO MADE US?

Many intelligent people willfully ignore their Maker. Others think there is no God and live only for themselves as they please. They believe that death ends everything. This is very foolish, for many things point to God. The world around us is full of marvels and proclaims to man that the great Creator designed it all. Nature, as it is called, is the result of His creative work. How thankful we are that the God who made us is the God who loves us. In the Bible we read:

*“Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy.”* (Acts 14:17)

God's goodness should cause us to be thankful. When we think of this and realise we do not deserve His goodness and love, it should lead us to repentance. Let's not forget that this world belongs to its Maker and we also belong to Him, whether or not we believe in Him. This is what God says about the world:

*“With my great power and outstretched arm I made the earth and its people and the animals that are on it ...”* (Jeremiah 27:5).

Lord Kelvin, one of the foremost scientists of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, said “Science positively demands creation”. Many modern scientists agree with this. If you ignore your Maker you do it at your cost. Be wise! To ignore God is to perish.

No theory of evolution can change the fact that this earth and we who live on it have a Maker - to whom we must give account.

## HOW CAN WE FIND GOD?

Jesus also made it clear that death does not end all. He said:

*"Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell."* (Matt.10:28)

There is a day of judgement coming; the Bible makes that clear. However, our Creator is our best Friend and in His love for us He longs to save us, in spite of our sin and our self-will. Many might ask, "How can we find God? How can we be sure that what we believe is true, when there are so many different churches and so many different beliefs?"

You don't need to remain in doubt. You may have a Bible or you can easily get one. Read the Gospel by John with an open mind and you will soon find the truth. Our Maker knows all about us and it is to Him that we are answerable - not to men. If we seek Him sincerely we shall find Him. He will be revealed to every honest heart that seeks Him. At present the way ahead may seem uncertain and unknown to you but God is not far from any of us.

Begin to seek Him now. As you read the Gospel by John, ask God in prayer to help you to find Him. As you read you will discover that the Bible's chief aim is to point us to Jesus. He said himself of the Old Testament:

*"These are the Scriptures that testify about me ..."* (John 5:39)

So we see that salvation is in Jesus. Don't allow the fact that there are many different churches and various religious beliefs to hinder you from thinking of Him. He said:

*"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."* (John 14:6)

## WHAT DO WE HAVE TO DO?

Eternal life with Jesus in Heaven after we die is something we would all like. But what do we have to do to obtain this eternal life? We want to know with certainty about the life to come, and have peace in our hearts *now*. In John 3:36, we read:

*"Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him."*

When we read or hear the gospel - God's good news about Jesus Christ - we are enlightened: our "eyes" are opened. Therefore it is our attitude to Jesus that determines whether or not we receive eternal life. God's attitude to us depends on our attitude to Jesus.

If we believe in Him, we are saved and have eternal life. By faith in Jesus we are saved from the punishment our sins deserve. This is because He died for us and rose again from the dead. God's righteous requirements were satisfied and so He is able to forgive us when we repent and trust Jesus Christ as our Saviour.

Why not do this today? Acknowledge from your heart "He died for me". Jesus Christ will receive you because He said:

*"... whoever comes to me I will never drive away."* (John 6:37)

If you accept Him now as your own personal Saviour, then bow your head in humility and give Him thanks for so great a salvation.

N.J.Clayton wrote a song about how he felt when he trusted Jesus -

*"Now I belong to Jesus, Jesus belongs to me.  
Not for the years of time alone, but for eternity."*

Has this been your experience? If so, be sure to confess Him to others. Many will be glad that you are saved. Some might not know how to be saved, so tell them that this happened because you put your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Then seek out a Christian friend or write to Hayes Press for another booklet that will help you to follow Jesus as His disciple.

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Printed in the U.K. Revised Edition 1992. Revised Edition 2010

OUR LIVES



WHAT PURPOSE?

Most people have some purpose in life.  
Guy Jarvie here addresses the question of the basic  
meaning of life: the purpose of our existence.

The sooner this question is faced, the greater the prospect  
of living life in the assurance of salvation through faith in Jesus  
Christ and in the enjoyment of the blessings of God's love.



Published by HAYES PRESS

The Barn, Flaxlands, Wootton Bassett., Wiltshire, England, SN4 8DY

t +44 (0)17093 850598 e [sales@hayespress.org](mailto:sales@hayespress.org) w [www.hayespress.org](http://www.hayespress.org)

HAYES PRESS ISBN 1 871126 037



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