

## God's Purpose For Creation

'In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth' (Genesis 1:1).

'All things were made and came into existence through Him; and without Him was not even one thing made that has come into being' (John 1:3).

'For it was in Him that all things were created, in heaven and on earth ... all things were created and exist through Him and in Him and for Him' (Colossians 1:16).

'I will not be angry forever, for the spirit of man would be consumed before Me, and My purpose in creating the souls of men would be frustrated' (Isaiah 57:16).

Concentrating on our universe, in this order, The Holy Trinity; God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, created the earth out of water (2 Peter 3:5). At that time, the earth was without form, was an empty waste and completely dark (Genesis 1:2). They spoke light into existence. (Scientists now know light is a tangible item and is instant.) From there, everything else was created; the firmament – the sky; our atmosphere, then They spoke and dry land appeared. After that They created all plants, trees and vegetation. Then our galaxy was created; after that, the fish, then the birds, then the livestock, reptiles (including dinosaurs) and wild animals. The last thing created was mankind (Genesis 1:1 to 27).

The Lord saw that everything He had created was good, except for one thing; it was the fact that Adam was alone (Genesis 2:18). He later created Eve from Adam's side. There are some marked differences between Adam and Eve's creation and that of the animals:

1: No other creature was made in God's image and likeness.

2: No other creature became a living soul like Adam did.

3: No other creature was told to have dominion, yet Adam (meaning first man) was given dominion over all of God's creation. Adam was asked by God to name all the animals as God brought them to him.

4: No other creature was spoken to, but God spoke to Adam immediately after he was created.

5: None of the animals were placed anywhere special on the earth, but Adam was given the Garden of Eden.

6: No other creature walked with God, but Adam walked with God every evening.

7: No other creature on the earth was created with a hunger for God, or an awareness of Him.

8: No other creature has the knowledge of good and evil.

9: No other creature was commanded to do anything except multiply, but Adam was commanded to obey.

10: No other creature was given to ability to commune with God and to pray and worship.

11: Animals were not given choices, Adam was.

12: Human beings are God's greatest creation.

There is no life on other planets because God made earth, and only earth, to be inhabited. 'For thus says the Lord – Who created the heavens, God Himself – Who formed the earth and made it – Who established it and did not create it to be a worthless waste; He formed it to be inhabited' (Isaiah 45:18). Evolutionists and scientists think they are so clever discovering water and ice on other planets, but the Bible told us that thousands of years ago (Genesis 1:6 & 7; Psalm 148:4). 'God appointed the moon for (the four) seasons' (Psalm 104:19). God appointed the time for rain and harvest (Jeremiah 5:24; Ezekiel 34:26). For thousands of years people thought the earth was flat, but thousands of years ago, the Bible said the earth is a circle and hangs on nothing (Job 26:7; Isaiah 40:22).

Scientists know very little; but God knows everything and gives us information about the earth and the universe through His Word.

The Lord created the earth for His purposes, and when His purpose is fulfilled, He will bring the earth to a complete end – to the point where it will no longer exist. That leads some people to ask the question: Why did God go to all the trouble to create the earth and its inhabitants if He is going to end it all? Why didn't He just create people to live in heaven, like He created the angels, cherubim and seraphim? The answers to these questions can be found scattered through the Bible. God had a purpose (a master plan) for creating the earth and the souls of men (Isaiah 57:16). 'To everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven' (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

After some of God's initial creation (the devil and his cohorts) became proud, disobeyed God and left their rightful place in heaven (Isaiah 14:9 to 21; Ezekiel 28:13 to 19; 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6), He ordered them out of the highest heaven, to the first heaven and to earth. 'At one time you were ... following the prince of the power of the air' (Ephesians 2:2). Where is the air? It is in our atmosphere or first heaven and on earth. The devil and some evil spirits can still go and present themselves to God in heaven (Job 1:6 & 7; 2:1 & 2; 1 Samuel 19:9; 1 Kings 22:21 to 23). For more information in this subject see the sermons on this website titled 'The Heavens are real' and 'Exposing some myths surrounding the Bible'. God created the lake of fire for the devil and disobedient angels, but that is where disobedient people will end up for eternity (Matthew 25:41; Revelation 21:8). Some angels are already in a place of darkness and gloom, never to be released (2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6). After Judgement Day, so many thousands of people, angels and evil spirits that have rejected the Lord, will be lost forever in the lake of fire. The lost ones need to be replaced, and that is the purpose of creation. God wanted to create children that would willingly choose to love Him; who would choose to obey Him, and choose Him as their Lord and Father, and would therefore never disobey and leave His side as the others had done. "If you love Me, keep (obey) My commandments." (John 14:15). The Holy Spirit, together with committed Christians, are inviting everyone who is listening, and anyone who is thirsty for God, and anyone who wants to, to come and join with us in heaven. Then the Lord will be our God and we will be His children forever. 'The Holy Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" Let him who is listening say, "Come!" Let everyone who is thirsty, come and whosoever desires to do it, let him come, take, drink of the water of Life without cost' (Revelation 22:17; Isaiah 55:1; Revelation 21:6 & 7).

No person, who has seen the suffering on earth and has been clearly taught the eternal consequences of disobeying God, will ever disobey Him once we finally reach our place in heaven. The angels that left their rightful place obviously didn't take notice when they were warned what would happen to them. Perhaps it was because they were created without sin and did not know suffering so couldn't comprehend. We can see that in Adam's situation. He also made light of God's warning when he was told of the consequences of disobeying God (Genesis 2:17; 3:3 to 6). It is because of Adam that mankind is suffering so terribly, is lost and needs saving. Eve was deceived; but it was Adam who disobeyed (1 Timothy 2:14). The Lord Jesus took responsibility for what Adam did, and gave Himself to redeem us and reconcile us with God the Father (1 Corinthians 15:22 & 45). Only the redeemed of earth – committed born-again Christians – know and understand fully the consequences of rejecting God. He has been careful to make us unquestionably aware of the eternal consequences of disobedience. This whole scenario is why the Lord created the earth, put everything on it, allowed Adam to sin and bring mankind to ruin, then sent Jesus to redeem us. God the Father does not want any of us humans to be lost forever (2 Peter 3:9), and He does not want us to leave our rightful place, once we are in heaven. God wants us to be with Him, pure and holy, without sin, obedient and in fellowship

with the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and with each other (1 Corinthians 1:9; 1 John 1:3; 2 Corinthians 13:14). That is also why He commands total obedience from His children. God's will is done in heaven (Matthew 6:10; Luke 11:2), and He expects His people to do His will on earth.

God's purpose of creating then redeeming mankind to have fellowship with Him is not something our human minds can comprehend or understand, and the Lord knows that (Job 38:4; Psalm 82:5; Isaiah 40:21 & 22; 48:13; Hebrews 1:10). It was all part of His purpose, His master plan from the beginning of the foundation of the world, and the people He foreknew, who would accept His plan for salvation, had their names written in His book of Life (Psalm 102:25; Proverbs 8:29; Isaiah 51:16; Revelation 13:8; 17:8). When we accept the Lord as our Saviour, and have received the seal of the Holy Spirit, that seal is what confirms our salvation that has been promised, and what is already written in the Book of Life (2 Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 1:13; 4:30).

This all seems to be just a natural world that we live in because that is all we can see, but the whole scenario of earth and heaven is in fact a spiritual one, created by God, Who is Spirit (John 4:24). Born-again Christians are filled with the Holy Spirit, and once we are in heaven, we will have new incorruptible bodies (1 Corinthians 15:52 to 54) and will be like the holy angels, who are obviously holy and obedient spirits (Matthew 22:30; Mark 12:25). We are told to walk in the Spirit and not in the flesh (Romans 8:1 & 4; Galatians 5:16 & 25). The new heaven and the new earth that the Lord has created to replace this one, is almost exactly the same as this earth was before Adam sinned, and only the redeemed of earth (genuine believers) will live there (Isaiah 65:17; 66:22; 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:1). If we study the scriptures written in this text, we will see that this 'natural' world is actually spiritual. All this – the message of the cross – is foolishness to the unredeemed or the carnal mind because they are spiritually 'blind', but to Christians, it is the manifestation of the power of God unto our salvation (1 Corinthians 1:18). The unrenewed, nonspiritual natural mind cannot receive the things of the Spirit of God for they are meaningless foolishness to him and he cannot know about them because they are spiritually discerned (1 Corinthians 2:14). That means only the committed Christians can understand it because our 'spiritual eyes' have been opened to the spiritual aspect of life on earth and that blesses us (Matthew 13:16 & 17; Luke 24:31).

This whole picture is also why evolution cannot possibly be correct. Evolution takes our Lord out of the equation, and that is not possible when we understand God's purpose for creating earth. Only a fool would say in his heart, "There is no God" (Psalm 14:1; 53:1). How could we have all this beauty on earth without God's creative imagination? The second law of physics, the law of entropy, states simply in unprofessional language, that the universe is slowly becoming less and less well organised. Animals naturally 'devolve', they do not evolve. Unless some power is at work to maintain a system, it will gradually go into decline. That is an established law of physics. That is why evolution cannot work. The two are directly opposite. Evolution bristles with inconsistencies and only the unrepentant mind could accept such idiocy.

The incredibly misleading global warming hoax is designed to take the focus off God and the second coming of Jesus and the culmination of this age. By focussing on global warming, people are looking to saving the planet instead of saving their souls. Saving the planet, or cleaning up our environment is good; but saving ones' soul is the most important thing a person can do; because it is then saved for eternity. Saving the planet is good but temporary, because the Bible tells us the earth is going to eventually be burned by fire and destroyed – once God's master plan has been fulfilled. God did not promise He would never again destroy the earth. He promised He would never again destroy the earth – with a flood, and He gave us the rainbow as a token of the pledge to remember that promise (Genesis 9:11 to 17). The Lord has made it

clear He intends to destroy the earth – this time by fire.

The earth and the whole universe will one day pass away and be burned by the fire of the Lord, Who is a consuming fire (Hebrews 12:29). 'Their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the Lord's wrath; but the whole earth shall be consumed in the fire of His jealous wrath, for a full, yes, a sudden end will He make of all the inhabitants of the earth. Therefore wait for Me, says the Lord ... for all the earth shall be consumed with the fire of My jealousy' (Zephaniah 1:18 then 3:8). 'For they (the non believers) wilfully overlook this fact: that the heavens were created long ago by the word of God, and the earth also, which was formed out of water and by means of water. Through which the world was then deluged by water and perished. But by the same word, the present heavens and earth have been stored up for fire; being kept until the day of judgement and destruction of the ungodly people. The Lord does not delay but He is patient, not desiring that any should perish, but that all should turn to repentance. The day of the Lord will come (as suddenly as a) thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a thunderous crash, and the elements of the universe will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and the works that are upon it will be burned up. While you wait for the coming of the Lord by reason of which the flaming heavens will be dissolved and the universe will flare and melt with fire' (2 Peter 3:5 to 12). When this happens, all non believers (the ungodly, the disobedient) will perish, but the Christians who have been obedient to God while on this earth, can look forward to what God has promised us – eternal life with Him.

The burning of the earth will happen in stages of three 'The first angel blew his trumpet and there was a storm of hail and fire mingled with blood cast upon the earth. And a third part of the earth burned up, and a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up. The second angel blew his trumpet and something resembling a great mountain, blazing with fire, was hurled into the sea. And a third of the sea was turned to blood, a third of the living creatures in the sea perished, and a third of the ships were destroyed. The third angel blew his trumpet, and a huge star fell from heaven – burning like a torch – and it dropped on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water – and the name of the star is Wormwood. A third part of the waters was changed into wormwood and many people died from using the water because it had become bitter. Then the fourth angel blew his trumpet, and a third of the sun was smitten, and a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that the light of a third of them was darkened and a third of the daylight was withdrawn, and likewise, a third of the light of the night was kept from shining' (Revelation 8:7 to 12).

Why would God do such a thing to His earth, which He so carefully created with purpose? Because of unrepented sin of most of mankind. Sin has corrupted this earth so it has to be cleansed with fire. Souls go to heaven or hell, but the mortal bodies of all dead animals and humans remain buried in the earth; corrupting it. If we remember at the time of creation, Adam and Eve were created with immortal bodies, intended to live forever. When Adam sinned and brought mortal death to the earth, the Lord had to stop him from eating of the Tree of Life so he could not then live forever in his fallen state (Genesis 3:22 to 24). When the Lord burns the earth, He is also going to send mortal death itself, to the second or eternal death in the lake of fire (Revelation 20:14). Christians who have repented of their sins need not fear this judgement. It is not for them, but for those who are rebellious against God – those who refuse to obey Him – those who refuse to turn to Him – those who refuse to allow Him to be their God and Father – those who have rejected Jesus, the holy Son of God. If we reject Jesus while on earth, then God will reject us on Judgement Day! He calls those people wicked! That is the true reality of eternity. 'The wicked are sentenced to suffer just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the adjacent towns suffered – which

likewise gave themselves over to impurity and indulged in unnatural vice and sensual perversity – are laid out in plain sight as an exhibit of perpetual punishment, to warn of everlasting fire’ (Jude 1:7). ‘And they did not repent of their murders or their practice of magic or their sexual vice or their thefts’ (Revelation 9:21). ‘As for the cowardly, ignoble, contemptible, the unbelievers, the depraved, those defiled with abominations, murderers, adulterers, magicians, idolators, all of these shall have their part in the lake that blazes with fire and brimstone (sulphur). This is the second death’ (Revelation 21:8).

The earth will be destroyed, but not for at least another 1,000 years so there is still 1,000 years of human history yet to happen (Revelation 20:4 to 7). We most certainly do have a problem with our environment and as good stewards of this planet, we should keep it clean and unpolluted as much as possible. We should all do our small bit to improve the area in which we personally live; in the same way that we keep our own houses and back yards clean. But, we have been fed a lot of misinformation about the global warming issue.

The ‘greenhouse’ effect started when scientists noticed some carbon dioxide in the atmosphere which was forming a blanket around the earth, causing heat to be trapped. They said it was going to heat the earth up; ice caps were going to melt and it would end all life on earth. Scientists have invented a new apocalypse to rival anything the Bible has mentioned about pestilence and plague. Scientists and politicians say we can not survive the next millennium. They say it will change earth from greenhouse to dangerous hothouse, threatening the biggest temperature rise since records began. That is utter nonsense! It is false to assume we are getting hotter. We have naturally hotter years and naturally cooler years. The ‘Greenhouse Trap’, a book written by Warwick Hughes, says Australia has actually cooled in the last 50 years. 1994 was cooler than 1990.

The scientists who were taking temperature readings that showed we were heating up, were only taking temperatures from inside large cities. Cities are like heat irons, and we know the average temperature inside a city is higher than outside the city, because of human activity, cars etc. However, cities only cover a minor portion of the earths’ overall area. This reflected a wrong reading. Nasa satellites have shown no sign of a warmer globe, after a full ten year space study. Melting icecaps are the pillar of the theory. The scientists go on about melting icebergs in the Antarctica, but they deliberately don’t mention the active volcano under the ice sheet, which is the main cause of melting ice in that region! The truth is there is no unnatural warming. Warwick Hughes has been measuring temperatures for 50 years and can see Australia has actually cooled, and not heated up. Some people believe the enhanced greenhouse effect is causing global warming but that is not what most scientists think.

A climatologist of the School of Environment Studies, at university of Virginia, stated from 400 meteorologists, only 19% believe globe warming is result of the greenhouse effect. Right from the start of the greenhouse scare, the media have favoured the apocalyptic scenario; the ultimate bad news story. The sensible scientists are being out-cried by the doom-sayers. The sensible scientists are often ignored by the media so we don’t hear enough sensible news to balance world opinions. Then of course, politicians jump on the bandwagon and use the imaginary global warming, to fleece more money out of us via ‘carbon trading tax’.

Graeme Richardson (an Australian politician now retired) said global warming could claim the lives of 500,000 Australians, and because of the greenhouse effect, people will be swimming in the streets of Surfer’s Paradise with sea levels up to a metre higher. Beaches could disappear. Was he hopelessly misinformed and too dim-witted to find out the truth

for himself – or was he deliberately lying? These doomsday predictions will affect us all. The media have to take some blame for spreading the nonsense, but the media were led by misguided scientists. The media didn't think up the greenhouse effect; scientists did. The media can't give all facts because of time restraints, and they have to condense news stories so you end up with a caricature of the truth. There is always more than a morbid fascination with impending doom. Global warming and the greenhouse effect has become a kind of 'religion' that has swept the world. We live in a world that people say won't come to an end because of sin (which is the truth), but they believe it may be burned up by global warming (which is a lie). They refuse to believe the truth and deliberately believe a lie! The reality is; greenhouse really is green hoax. There is a problem with the polluted environment, but mostly, it is not as bad as we have been led to believe. The whole world is political, ideological and the systems are turned upside down on this false premise, causing the global warming and greenhouse hysteria. The green environment idea began with a few genuine people who were concerned with the degradation of environment. The hole in the ozone layer is simply seasonal and has been happening for thousands of years with no ill effect. Melting ice will not raise sea levels. Sea levels will decrease with melting ice. Put a large ice cube in a glass of water, watch it melt and watch the water level drop, not rise.

Carbon dioxide in the current concentrations is harmless to animals and people because it is the end product of our own respiration. Our lungs contain 5% carbon dioxide, more than 100 times the concentration of the atmosphere. If carbon dioxide were poisonous, then fizzy drinks – which are full of it – would be harmful. Trees show that the climate has warmed and cooled many times over thousands of years, but there has been no increase of temperature in the industrial age. The answer to the whole environment problem is this; when mankind fell into sin, all of creation fell as well, and what we are seeing today is the effect of a worldwide fall. Archaeology has proven that pollution has been around for thousands of years, but it is now seen in its entirety because of global communication, which has only been around for a short time. We are seeing all this come to a head and why at this time? Because the Bible said that would happen shortly before Jesus returns.

From a spiritual point of view, it is an age old problem. People worship the creation more than our Creator. We do need to be responsible with our environment, but don't forget God says He will destroy the heavens (that is the universe) and the earth, and He will bring the new heaven and new earth, but in the meantime we need to be responsible for our living space. In Revelation 11:18, we read that as part of the upcoming judgement, God will judge those who corrupt the earth with sin. God said in Psalm 46, that as the earth changes and mountains are shaken, we do not need to fear, because He is in the midst of the earth and He is our refuge. It is one of the secret things revealed to us through the scriptures, that men of old yearned to know about but couldn't understand. Daniel was told to; "Go your way, Daniel, for the words are sealed till the time of the end" (Daniel 12:9). Even the clearest prophecies only make real sense after the event has taken place.

It will be after the new heavens and the new earth are in place, that we will be able to fully comprehend God's promise. In the meantime, we can only speculate and imagine what the new earth will be like. We hope this sermon will help you understand God's purpose for the creation of this world, and how it will all end, making way for the new earth He has created for us.

Amen and God bless you

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