

**WHY ARE WE ON THE
EARTH?**

**IMPORTANT
QUESTIONS
ANSWERED IN THE
BIBLE**

Instructions:

- Read the entire lesson – all Bible verses are included and are from the New King James Version
- Answer the questions at the end of the lesson
- Mail the answers to the address provided
- The questions will be marked and returned to you along with the next lesson and a self-addressed envelope
- A Certificate of Completion will be mailed when the entire series is completed

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In this lesson we will answer, from the Bible, 3 important questions which were mentioned in a previous lesson:

- **Why are we on the earth?**
- **What is God's plan of salvation?**
- **What is God like?**

First, however, we will look at some more fascinating facts about God's creation. There are many things that we call natural disasters, but it has been discovered that they are necessary to sustain this planet.

Did you know that our planet needs hurricanes?

- Hurricanes, typhoons and tropical cyclones are all the same type of storm but located in different oceans. Hurricanes are in the Atlantic, typhoons are in the Pacific and tropical cyclones are in the Indian Ocean. (We will call all of these storms "hurricanes" in this report.) Hurricanes start small but when conditions are right they quickly build up to a tropical storm. The storm continues over the hot and humid ocean and it grows. When the winds become 119 kmh (74 mph) then it is called a hurricane. Hurricanes thrive when temperature of the ocean is 27 degrees Celsius (80 degrees Fahrenheit) or higher.
- Hurricanes cool temperatures down because their intense winds move the hot air from tropical areas to cooler areas.
- Hurricanes break droughts. They desalinate the salt water (remove the salt) from the oceans. When the hurricane makes landfall, it often causes a lot of destruction but there are many benefits to the land. Because the rain that falls is fresh water it fills reservoirs and waters the land. If there has been a drought in the area this is essential.

Did you know that our planet needs forest fires?

- New research has revealed how plant seeds depend on smoke and even heat from fires to get them to sprout. If weeds and grass have been burned to the ground, the ground will be fertilized by new ash. Also, a new seed will have plenty of room to grow and little competition. Forest fires improve the health of our forests.

How important is wind to our planet?

- Wind is important for several reasons. We need wind to move air around so that we can have a constant supply of oxygen. Plants need wind to carry their pollen to other

plants so they can reproduce. We need wind to move weather to different regions. Without wind everything would become stagnant (inactive and foul).

Does snow and ice have a purpose or is it just for fun?

- Snow and ice are integral parts of the global climate system and have a cooling effect on the earth. White surfaces stay cooler than black surfaces when they are hit by radiation from the sun. This can be felt even in the clothes we wear.
- One major benefit of a good snow cover is snow functions as an excellent insulator of the soil. Without snow, very cold temperatures would freeze the soil deeper and deeper. This could lead to damage of root systems of trees and shrubs. The insulation effect of snow also helps protect perennials, bulbs, ground covers, and other plants from alternating freezing and thawing cycles. Without snow, milder temperatures and the sun could warm the soil's surface, leading to damage from soil heaving (swelling or rising), which can break roots and dry out plant parts. Snow also helps conserve soil moisture over the winter.
- There is something else that happens when it snows – air contains 78% of a gaseous element called nitrogen which is deposited by snow. Rain also contains nitrogen compounds that were suspended in air as they formed. It is estimated that 2 to 12 pounds of nitrogen are deposited per acre as a result of snow and rain.

What about lightning, does it have a purpose?

- Lightning produces materials critical to life itself. All living things depend on the chemical element nitrogen. Your body contains molecules known as proteins which are made up of several elements, including nitrogen.
- When lightning slices through the atmosphere, it knocks electrons from the nitrogen atoms. The atoms then combine with oxygen and hydrogen to form nitrates. Rain carries this new compound to the earth enriching the soil with nitrates. Plants synthesize (a chemical reaction) these nitrates into proteins which can be used by both animals and people.

God considered every detail when He created this planet that we call Earth and this universe. This information makes us realize that everything has a purpose whether or not we know and understand it. What a fascinating world God created for us to explore, care for and enjoy.

Human beings are born in the image of God (not a physical image because God is Spirit). Of God's entire creation, it is only man (male and female) who were created in His image therefore, it is important to find out "why we are here".

- Genesis 1:27 So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Here are six reasons, from the Bible, telling us "Why we are on earth".

- 1. To receive God's grace (unmerited favour). God wants everyone to receive the gift of salvation. He sent His Son to die for our sins, so we can be with Him always.**
 - John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.
 - John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
- 2. To decide whom we will serve. God wants us to choose to serve Him.**
 - Joshua 24:14-15 Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD! And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."
- 3. To have a relationship with God. God wants to reason with us; He wants us to think and understand.**
 - Isaiah 1:18 "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "though your sins are like scarlet; they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool..
- 4. To worship and glorify (give praise to) God**
 - Psalm 86:9:12 All nations whom You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and shall glorify Your name. I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever.

- I Corinthians 6:20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

5. To trust God, to know God and to live our lives for God – it is then that He can and will guide our lives

- Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

6. To let our light shine before men so others will glorify God, our Father in Heaven. Jesus is the Light of men.

- Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.
- John 1:4-5 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

The Bible gives us “God’s plan of salvation”

- **We must believe that Jesus is the Son of God**
John 8:24 Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am *He*
- **We must repent (turn away from) of our sins**
Luke 13:3 ...unless you repent, you too will all perish
- **We must confess that we believe Jesus Christ is God's Son**
Matthew 10:32 Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven
- **We must be baptized (immersed) in water**
Acts 2:38 Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit
- **We must let Him be our Guide.**

The Bible tells us “what God is like”

God is Compassionate

- Luke 6:36 Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

God is Forgiving

- Psalm 86:5 For You, Lord, *are* good, and ready to forgive, and abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You.

God is Eternal

- Psalm 90:2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You *are* God.

God is Faithful; He Keeps His Promises

- Lamentations 3:22-23 Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.

God is Good

- Matthew 19:17 So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one *is* good but One, *that is*, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments."

God is Holy

- Psalm 99:9 Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at His holy hill; for the LORD our God *is* holy.

God is Just

- Romans 3:26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

God is Love

- 1 John 4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God and God in him.

God is Merciful

- 2 Corinthians 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort

God is Omnipotent (nothing is impossible for God)

- Luke 1:37 For with God nothing will be impossible

God is Omniscient (knowing everything that happens)

- 1 John 3:20 For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.

God is Spirit

- John 4: 24 God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

God is One

- Deuteronomy 6:4-5 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD *is* one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

God is Omnipresent (He is everywhere at all times)

- Psalm 139:7-12 Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me; your right hand will hold me fast. If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

God is Perfect

- Deuteronomy 32: 4 He is the Rock, His work is perfect; for all His ways are justice, a God of truth and without injustice; righteous and upright is He.

God Does Not Change - Unchanging Character

- Malachi 3: 6 For I *am* the LORD, I do not change; therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.

Now we have the answers, from God's Word, to these important questions mentioned at the beginning of this lesson. It is good to know that we have a reason to be here on the earth. God created us. We are special and created in the image of God. God created everything but He only said that man was created in His image. God wants us to have a relationship with Him while here on earth and He wants us to spend eternity with Him and His Son. God provided His Son so He could take away our sins if we will believe and obey Him.

Isn't it wonderful to know that the Creator of the entire universe loves us and cares for each and every person. Doesn't that make you want to do His Will?

- Do you want to have a personal Bible study? _____
- Do you want to be baptized? _____

We hope you will continue with this course. If there is anything else that we can do to assist you in your search for God, please ask _____

Secret Code

1=A	4=D	7=G	10=J	13=M	16=P	19=T	22=W
2=B	5=E	8=H	11=K	14=N	17=R	20=U	23=X
3=C	6=F	9=I	12=L	15=O	18=S	21=V	24=Y

8 5 22 8 15 4 15 5 18 14 15 19 1 2 15 21 5

4 15 5 18 14 15 19 11 14 15 22 7 15 4

6 15 17 7 15 4 9 18 12 15 21 5

6 9 17 18 19 10 15 8 14 6 15 20 17 5 9 7 8 19

True or False

1. Lightening benefits our planet.
2. Hurricanes help control temperatures on our planet.
3. There is no benefit when the wind blows.
4. Forest fires nourish the soil.
5. Snow helps insulate the ground.
6. When creating, God considered every minute detail.
7. We have no choice in what we do with our lives.
8. God is Omnipotent – He can do everything.
9. God is Omniscient – He knows everything.

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Please Complete the Following Verses

9T

1. Luke 13:3 I tell you, no! But unless you _____ you too will all perish.
2. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD *is* one! You shall _____ your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.
3. 2 Corinthians 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the _____ and God of all comfort
4. Matthew 19:17 So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one *is* good but One, *that is*, God. But if you want to enter into life, _____."
5. Psalm 86:9:12 All nations whom You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and shall glorify Your name. I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart; _____.
6. Psalm 16:8-11 I have set the LORD always before me; because *He is* at my right hand I shall not be moved. _____ of life; in Your presence *is* fullness of joy; at Your right hand *are* pleasures forevermore.
7. Acts 2:38 Peter replied, "_____, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit
8. 1 John 3:20 For if our heart condemns us _____ than our heart, and knows all things.
9. Psalm 90:2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, _____.
10. Psalm 99:9 _____ our God, and worship at His holy hill; for the LORD our God *is* holy.

