

THE MEANING OF LIFE

November 30, 2025

1. Isn't life amazing
2. What you can experience every morning when you wake up
 - a. Sun is shining
 - b. Birds are out
 - c. Crispness of the cool weather
 - d. You get to decide what you want to do that day
 - e. What you're going to eat.
 - f. Where you want to go for Christmas
 - g. Every day life is full of wonders
3. But have you ever wondered
 - a. what is my purpose
 - b. for being in this wonderful world?
 - c. What is my life really accomplishing?
4. As we get older, we start thinking about this more and more
 - a. **My time** in this place is getting shorter and shorter
 - b. Look at **your body**, it is showing its age more and more
 - c. **Your memory** isn't what it used to be
 - d. **Your athletic prowess** has diminished substantially
5. LOOK AT YOURSELF RIGHT NOW
 - a. This is the best you will ever be from here on out
 - b. Only going to progressively get worse and worse
 - c. So goes EVERYTHING in this world
 - d. 2nd Law of Thermodynamics – everything goes from order to disorder
6. But still, life is pretty amazing
7. There is coming a time when all this comes to an end
 - a. Everything has an expiration date
 - b. You ever think about that?
 - i. No longer able to experience the wonders of life
 - ii. What purpose did you serve having experienced life?
8. 50 years from now – **who's going to know who you were**
 - a. What things you did in your life

- b. What was your name
 - i. My kids couldn't tell you the names of my grandparents
 - ii. Yet alone, what their life was like?
 - 1. What did they do for recreation?
 - 2. Where did they live?
 - 3. What did they believe?
 - 4. What accomplishments were they most **proud of**?
- 9. Even as a Christian
 - a. The greatest preacher of my lifetime was Richard Rogers or Chuck Lucas
 - b. Who among the young people today
 - i. have ever heard of them
 - c. Yet alone, the sermons and books they wrote
- 10. We have names in history that we are **familiar** with
 - a. We can tell you about some of their major accomplishments
 - b. **But** what kind of person were they?
 - c. What was their personality like?
- 11. It's all been **ERASED!!!**
- 12. HOW ABOUT YOU?
 - a. Probably the only remembrance of your physical presence in this world
 - i. Will be a tombstone (if you have one)
 - ii. Maybe your name **lost** in a newspaper clipping
 - iii. **Your existence will be forgotten forever.**
- 13. So, what purpose do you serve?
 - a. What is THE MEANING OF YOUR LIFE?
- 14. **Solomon**
 - a. King of the most affluent nation in the world at that time
 - b. Rich
 - c. Powerful
 - d. Wisest man (possibly ever) – certainly of his day and age
 - e. The choicest of foods
 - f. Servants
 - g. He had seven hundred wives of royal birth and three hundred concubines
 - i. With that many heartaches
 - h. He had everything you could ever want

15. Towards the end of his life writes the **Book of Ecclesiastes**

- a. A book of reflection - over his life
- b. **What was really important?**
 - i. All those things he had at his disposal?

Ecclesiastes 12:1

Remember your Creator

*in the days of your youth,
before the days of trouble come
and the years approach when you will say,
“I find no pleasure in them” —*

1. Many of us grew up going to church
2. God was real to us
3. When life was full of **vitality** – THE DAYS OF OUR YOUTH
4. **NOTICE THE WORD: BEFORE** – the operative word of this passage – (4 times)

² *before the sun and the light
and the moon and the stars grow dark,
and the clouds return after the rain;*

³ *when the keepers of the house tremble,
and the **strong** men stoop,
(My wife is always telling me to stand up straight!!)
when the grinders cease because they are few,
and those looking through the windows grow dim;*

(I can't follow my golf ball after I hit it)

⁴ *when the doors to the street are closed
and the sound of grinding fades;
when men rise up at the sound of birds,
but all their songs grow faint;*

⁵ *when men are afraid of heights
(I get nervous getting on a ladder)
and of dangers in the streets;
when the almond tree blossoms
and the grasshopper drags himself along
and desire no longer is stirred.*

Then man goes to his eternal home

and mourners go about the streets.

⁶ **Remember him—before the silver cord is severed,**

or the golden bowl is broken;

before the pitcher is shattered at the spring,

or the wheel broken at the well,

⁷ **and the dust returns to the ground it came from,**

and the spirit returns to God who gave it.

⁸ “*Meaningless! Meaningless!*” says the Teacher.

“Everything is meaningless!”

The Conclusion of the Matter

⁹ *Not only was the Teacher wise, but also he imparted knowledge to the people. He pondered and searched out and set in order many proverbs.* ¹⁰ *The Teacher searched to find just the right words, and what he wrote was upright and true.*

¹¹ *The words of the wise are like goads, their collected sayings like firmly embedded nails—given by one Shepherd.* ¹² *Be warned, my son, of anything in addition to them.*

Of making many books there is no end, and much study wearies the body.

¹³ *Now all has been heard;*

here is the conclusion of the matter:

Fear God and keep his commandments,

for this is the whole duty of man.

¹⁴ *For God will bring every deed into judgment,*

including every hidden thing,

whether it is good or evil.

THERE IT IS

CONCLUSION: MEANINGLESS

Everything in this life is ultimately Meaningless

Man's only TRUE purpose in life: *Fear God and keep his commandments*

WHEN WE DIE

1. **vs. 5** *Then man goes to his eternal home*

2. **vs. 7** “and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.”
3. Our body turns to dust
4. The spirit will return to God
5. **vs. 14** “God will bring every deed we did while living into judgment”

Revelation 20:11–15

“Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. If anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”

1. When we die and our spirit returns to God
2. We will be judged
3. The BOOK OF LIFE will be opened
4. Everything about our life has been recorded
 - i. Whether our life
 - ii. **Accomplished what we were created for**
 1. Fear God
 2. Keep His Commandments

CONCLUDE with scripture in New Testament

James 4:13–17

“Now listen, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.’ Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, ‘If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.’ As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil. Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn’t do it, sins.”

What will be written about you,

when your spirit returns to God?

When the book is opened

What will it read

We all have a final destination – what is yours?

Will it read: This person

FEARED GOD

OBEYED HIS COMMANDMENTS

Do you even know what His commandments are?

Can't obey something

if you don't know what they are

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF YOUR LIFE