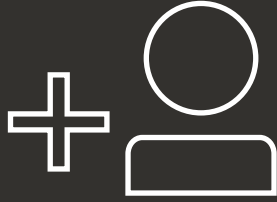




MANKIND'S PURPOSE

Why did
God
create
mankind?



God created mankind for His glory (Isaiah 43:7) and His pleasure (Colossians 1:16). It was according to God's will to create us (Revelation 4:11). God does not need mankind or anything else He created, however we are able to glorify Him. God deserves all glory and honor so He is completely justified in creating all things for His own glory. Who else deserves glory besides God? The answer is clearly: nobody.



What is
our
purpose
in life?



If God created us for His glory, then our purpose in life would naturally be to bring God glory. Paul said to do everything for the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31). We are also here to enjoy God (Psalm 16) and to point others to Jesus (Acts 1:8) which are both acts that bring glory to God.

John
Piper ¹

“God is most glorified in us, when we are most satisfied in Him.”



MANKIND MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE

*“Then God said, “Let us make **mankind in our image**, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”*

Genesis 1:26

Mankind was created in a way that resembles God. We fall short of God in each of these areas, however we are the only beings that God created which share all 6 of these aspects with Him.

Morally

Not only do we have a moral code which helps us determine right and wrong, but we are also accountable for our actions (Romans 2:6).

Intellectually

Humans have the ability to reason and philosophize in a logical manner. We also possess creativity and the ability to develop technology.

Physically

Although God does not have a body since He is spirit (John 4:24), our bodies allow us to do certain things that God can do (such as the ability to hear).

Relationally

Human's have the ability to have relationships with our family, fellow believers, and God Himself.

Emotionally

We are able to experience emotions such as joy, fear, and love. Our emotions are complex and wide-ranging.

Spiritually

Humans have a spirit in addition to our physical bodies. This allows us to connect with God in a unique way as well as live after our earthly death.



MANKIND'S FALL

Sin is any action or thought that falls short of God's perfect standards. Sin is also rebellion against God (Joshua 1:18). Adam and Eve sinned by disobeying God's command and rebelling against Him.



"Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it."

Genesis 3:1-6

WHY DO WE SIN?

Satan

Satan tempts us to rebel against God. He did so in the Garden of Eden and again when Jesus entered His creation. However, James tells us to resist the devil and he will flee (4:7).

Doubting God

Just like a young child who foolishly thinks they know better than their parents, we think that we know better than God. In His infinite wisdom, God created rules that are for our benefit.

Heart

A heart that holds God above all else does not sin. It is when we desire something above God that we fall into sin.

Desires

Rather than delighting in God, we focus on temporary pleasures that push us away from God and in the end destroy ourselves. Adam and Eve immediately regretted their sin and so should we.

Pride

Our pride also contributes to our fall. We do not like to be told what to do and we think we know better than God so we rebel. Adam and Eve sinned because they wanted to be like God.



MANKIND'S RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

BEFORE THE FALL

Man

Adam and Eve knew God closely, they even walked with Him in the Garden of Eden.



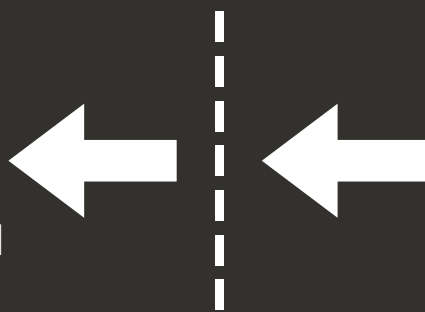
God

God created man as the pinnacle of His creation. God did not need to have a relationship with Adam and Eve, but it brought Him joy.

AFTER THE FALL

Man

Adam and Eve's relationship with God was immediately damaged. They were separated from God and hid from Him.



God

Even though our relationship with God was damaged, He immediately set a plan in motion to save humanity and rekindle His relationship with us.



EFFECTS OF SIN ON MANKIND

Physical Death

Death entered God's creation because of sin. Their sin caused the first recorded death in the Bible: the animal whose skin God used to cover Adam and Eve's nakedness. More importantly, mankind was now destined to die (Romans 6:23).



Spiritual Death

Not only does mankind face physical death due to sin, we also face spiritual death. After we die on earth, we are judged and some will experience eternal life in heaven with God while others will be separated from God for eternity in hell (Matthew 25:46).



Separation from God

As soon as Adam and Eve sinned, God came down to see them. Instead of being glad to see Him, they hid. The comfort they had with God was replaced with shame and regret. When we sin we cause division between us and God (Isaiah 59:1-2). If we do not repent and trust in Jesus for salvation then this separation will continue for all eternity (John 3:36).



Pain and Suffering

Prior to the first sin, mankind had never experienced evil, pain, or suffering. Following their sin, Adam and Eve experienced these for the first time. Pain and suffering will be a part of our lives until God finally puts an end to them (Revelation 21:4).





MANKIND'S HOPE AFTER THE FALL

Immediately:

↳ “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”
Genesis 3:15



Eventually:

↳ “Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.”
Isaiah 53:12

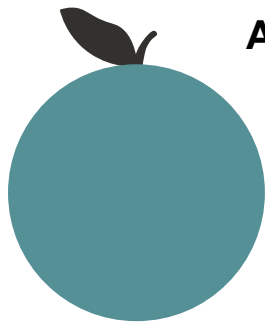


Death Through Adam



Life Through Christ

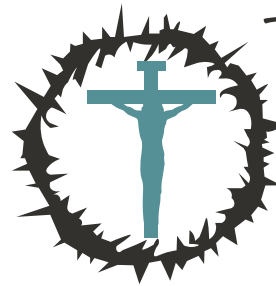
Read Romans 5:12-21



Adam and Eve's
SIN



CONDEMNATION
for all



Jesus'
DEATH



HOPE
for all

OUR HOPE

We are all sinners in need of a Savior
(Romans 3:23)

Sin must be punished by God with eternity in hell
(Revelation 20:15)

In His love, God put our punishment on a substitute (Jesus)
(1 Peter 3:18)

We can accept Jesus' payment or deny it
(Revelation 3:20)

Those who accept Jesus' payment will experience eternity with Him in heaven
(Romans 6:23)