
Subject: Re: The meaning of life?

Posted by [fl00d3d](#) on Wed, 25 Apr 2007 18:55:26 GMT

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(1) gbull: congratulations on your rebirth. I won't get cheesy on you, but acceptance really opens your eyes to the world around you and I think you'll find a much more fulfilling and enjoyable life.

(2) gbull: I think you're wrong about the Garden of Eden theory - though I see where you were going with it. It says in the Bible that the Garden was locked so that no man may ever enter again and protected by angels. Basically we were thrown out and told we could never enter it again ... so that would suggest its not the entire planet, because obviously we already cover it. It's probably somewhere near Mesopotamia or in some deep jungle not yet explored.

(3) Mex: Saying that the Bible cannot be used as 'evidence' is kinda biased; and I say this because I am to understand you're not religious or don't believe in the Bible and are thus discrediting it in order to make it better fit with your beliefs. The fact of the matter is that ANY historical document (whether diaries, the Bible, simple notes, or even legends as they are passed down) is written by man and no one else and ANY historical document is handled by man, translated by man, etc. Though I do agree the Bible should not be taken literally in many circumstances and may quite possibly have translation errors, I do see it as a holy and perfect book that has never been proven wrong and therefore should not be so quickly dismissed. You can even look at books such as Numbers which go as far as to detail lineage by actual figures/statistics. I highly doubt some random guy thought it'd be cool to write a book about lineage back then - find some Christian reference to it - and stick in the Bible as an 'extra read'. It obviously has some sort of value, though it is incredibly boring to read.

(4)

MexPirate wrote on Wed, 25 April 2007 13:35

Quote:My church teaches that you go to Heaven by having belief that Christ died for your sins, and the degree of your reward is based on the time you spent on Earth. Therefore, my purpose for living is to ensure my eternal salvation, and the degree of the reward that follows.

This is something that above all else seems most "un-christian" to me. On that basis the following groups of people would be excluded from heaven:

stillborn babies, athiests who spend their entire life doing charitable work, poor uneducated people who are never taught about christianity, anyone out of the billions of people born before christ.

But a 100 year old convicted murderer, rapist and paedophile would get in with a big reward as long as he acknowledged jesus and christianity before his death.

It strikes me that this concept encourages people to spread the word and save people by teaching them about christianity, something that has obvious benefits for the religion.

This is correct, and here is why (all from the Bible):

--Salvation is the key to heaven, not deeds. Since God sees ALL sins as equal (ie. right or wrong), as far as salvation is concerend you're either with sin or without sin and therefore condemned to hell. The only way to circumvent that fate is through the sacrifice of Jesus who was without sin.

--The Bible also states that if you are not afforded the opportunity to make the decision you are not held accountable. That doesn't mean "if I don't go to church - then I don't have to get wrapped up and it and I'm safe". It means if you're stuck in the jungle or if you're a newborn that can't intelligently understand the world around you - you are exempt from this damnation.

--It also mentions that salvation, PRE-Jesus, was different: it was having faith that Christ would come and that you were born into sin.

--Since murderers, rapists, and pedophiles are all sinners - just the same as "Joe across the street" who THINKS about how nice it would be to have his neighbor's house" - all end up in hell just the same. Petty sin and extravagant sin are all the same in God's eyes. And no, just saying "I believe in God" before you die on your deathbed is not enough. They'd have to truly believe and accept it.

--With all that being said, Christians should not be running around saying "fine, burn in hell" or "Well I guess that just means you're going to burn in hell for eternity"; and many do. Plant the seed, say your prayer, and if they ask for help - help them. Otherwise, "have a nice day"...
