

# What God Says About Human Life

What is your perspective about human life? Surely, the way you view and think about human life will make a huge difference as to how you will conduct yourself in your own life and toward the lives of others. Thankfully, God teaches us some important principles in the Bible concerning human life that will shape our perspectives if we let Him. Therefore, let's consider some things God says about human life.

**1) Created by God.** The origin of human life is critical in shaping your perspective of it. Sadly, many believe naturalistic explanations (i.e. the "Big Bang" and Evolution). This leads to the conclusion that human life started by a series of unexplained events that trace back to a time when something non-living became living. Yet, the Bible presents human life as the zenith of God's physical creation (Genesis 1-2). On the sixth day of creation week, God created people, both male and female (Genesis 1:26-27; 2:4-7, 18-24). However, it is not just that God created the first man and woman and then God allowed "nature" to take over from there. Rather, the Bible plainly teaches that every person is remarkably made by God (Job 10:8-12; Psalm 100:3; 119:73) – including when one is still unborn (Psalm 139:13-16; Jeremiah 1:4-5). Therefore, God intentionally created human life, carefully designing both men and women in the way He did!

**2) Created in God's image.** Of every physical thing God created, God only created people in His image (Genesis 1:26-27). Since God is spirit, this means that every person has been created with a spirit (soul). This makes every living person a dual-natured being consisting of both a physical and spiritual nature. This makes you and all people more valuable in God's sight than the rest of His physical creation (Matthew 6:26; 10:29-31). Then, there are a few critical components of having a spiritual nature that need to be understood. First, being a spiritual

being enables you to worship and serve God so as to seek after Him (John 4:23-24). Second, being a spiritual being means that your existence will not end whenever you experience physical death (2 Corinthians 5:1-10). Although you will put off this earthly tent (physical body) one day, you will continue to exist and be given a spiritual body that lasts forever. Then, notice that there is a judgment you will experience in which you will be repaid for what you have done while you have lived on this earth (in your physical body). Based on this judgment, you will then spend eternity in either Heaven or Hell (Matthew 25:46; Romans 2:5-11).

**3) Created with free will.** God could have created people to be mindless robots to do whatever pleased Him all the time. However, God created people with the ability to choose between right and wrong for themselves. For example, God gave Adam and Eve a law that they had the choice to either obey or disobey (Genesis 2:16-17; 3:1-6). Many other examples of people possessing free will to choose between right and wrong can be seen throughout the Scriptures (Deuteronomy 30:19-20; Joshua 24:14-15; Matthew 23:37). Sometimes people choose to use this free will in right ways, but other times people choose to use it in wrong ways. In fact, everyone who grows mature enough to make decisions between right and wrong for themselves uses free will to sin against God at some point (Romans 3:23).

**4) Created with purpose.** Recognizing the ways in which God has created every human life should cause us to consider *why* God has created people the way He has (i.e. spiritual beings with free will). While everything God has created glorifies Him in the sense that it all demonstrates God's powerful and wise design (Psalm 19:1-3), people are able to glorify God in ways beyond just existing. Instead, people can *choose* to seek God so as to glorify Him (Acts 17:26-

28). Therefore, God did not create people just so we would experience a few short years of life on this earth and seek after physical things; but so that we would recognize who He is and seek after Him by fearing Him and keeping His commandments (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14)! Then, because we have all sinned and failed to glorify Him in our lives at some point, God has demonstrated His great, selfless, and sacrificial love for us by sending His only Son to die and save us from the wages of our sin (John 3:16; Romans 6:23). Now, those who choose to accept His opportunity of salvation through faith-filled obedience to Jesus should commit themselves to glorifying God in their bodies (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)!

**5) Every human life must be treated properly.** Being created in this way gives every life value and each life is expected to be treated accordingly. For one, God has always been clear that the unjust killing of human lives is unacceptable and wrong (Genesis 9:5-6; Exodus 20:13; Deuteronomy 27:25; Proverbs 6:16-19; Revelation 21:8)! This includes abortion, infanticide, suicide, and murder. Furthermore, God also gives many instructions concerning how people are to treat other people properly – including with kindness and compassion (i.e. Matthew 5:21-22, 38-42, 43-48; 25:31-46). For, as those who are created in the image of God, we must be concerned about others who have been made in the image of God and do good to others as we have opportunity, including for one’s spiritual good!

God teaches us how to view human life in a way that will result in living to please Him. Despite how people around us may view human life, you must use God’s word alone to shape your understanding of both your own life and the lives of others. Allow these things to frame your perspective about human life and challenge you to use this understanding in a way that will honor Him!

## Thought Questions

(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

**Teaching:** What did you learn from this lesson?

**Rebuking:** What are some ways this lesson challenges you to live differently?

**Correcting:** How does this lesson help you make positive changes for Christ?

**Training & Equipping:** How can you apply this lesson to be trained and equipped in God’s service?