

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE DESTINY OF HUMANITY

RLJ-1665

JOHN S. TORELL

AUGUST 19, 2018

PART 1: WHY WAS MANKIND CREATED?

A HEAVENLY PRESENCE

I remember when I was told about Jesus by Pastor Johansson at the age of three. He lived in the Pentecostal church building next to our house in Husqvarna, Sweden. I still remember the “eternal moments” in the office of that pastor who took the time to explain the painting of the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. I remember telling him, “I am going to be there.” I remember immediately afterward having a feeling of being connected to God that I could not explain.

I had an experience in the basement of our house at the age of fourteen when my grandmother was lying in a coffin in one of the basement rooms prior to the funeral. The only bathroom in the house was located in the basement and I fearfully refused to use it for about two days. My parents did not want to stand guard outside the bathroom when I used it, and since no one in the house took pity on me, I started speaking how my grandmother had always loved me. Why would she hurt me after she died? I decided to take two candles and with great trepidation I went down to the basement and into the room where the casket was located. I placed the two candles with their holders on the casket and lit them and something happened in the room. The atmosphere changed to where there was a love and peace that I had never experienced; I felt connected to heaven and the presence of the Lord.

I remember going upstairs to where my aunts were weeping for their mother and related what I had experienced and how grandmother was with Jesus. The casket remained for a few more days and I went down to the basement several times to light more candles and bask in the supernatural atmosphere.

At the age of thirteen I walked away from God and went deeply into sin. When I was old enough to ride a motorcycle, I became extremely careless and took unnecessary chances that could have led to my death. There were no traffic lights at the time and few stop signs. My method for driving was to drive full bore through one intersection after another.

When I was around 17 years old, I was riding my bike late one night and saw a car coming into the intersection at the same time. I wasn't wearing a helmet and felt led to lay my bike down as I flew in the air toward the car. Someone shielded my head as I hit the front fender with my shoulder. I fell to the ground and just laid there for a few moments before I got up. I remember shaking my fist against God and asking why He was protecting me? I didn't want His help, but despite my defiance, I could feel angels surrounding helping me even though I was angry with God. I did not know it then but the demons in me were trying to kill me and they were furious for the protection God had given me.

I have shared these events so that you understand from a young age I have been aware of the presence of the Lord and the reality of the spirit world. We are eternal spirit



beings, living in human bodies on earth, and each of us wants to know what will happen when the physical body dies. Who is out there? What kinds of rules exist in the spirit world? Is really God in control of all things? Let's turn to the Bible and get some answers.

WHY WAS MANKIND CREATED?

Why was mankind created? As a young adult, I repeatedly asked older Christians this question to no avail. Some said they did not know, while others hypothesized that God was lonely and this is why Adam was created. It would be years before I finally found the answer in the Bible.

1. God created all the angels in the beginning. **Job 38:1-7**
2. God told the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah that a high ranking cherub named Lucifer was given the planet Earth to govern and rule. **Isaiah 14:12-21; Ezekiel 28:1-9; 11-19**

After ruling the earth for an unknown period of time, Lucifer revolted against God and traveled throughout the universe in an effort to persuade other angels to join his rebellion. He was able to convince one-third of the angels to join his insurrection. **Revelation 12:3-4**

3. Lucifer and the other fallen angels started a war in the heavens in their attempt to overthrow God. The Bible doesn't tell us how long this war lasted, but it raged throughout the entire universe, and in time Michael and the holy angels finally encircled Lucifer and his armed forces and the last battle took place in our solar system. The battle scars from Lucifer's last stand can be seen in the ravaged surfaces of Mars and the moon. The surface of the earth itself was totally destroyed. **Revelation 12:7-10; Genesis 1:2**
4. Logic dictates there must have been a trial since Jesus told us that Satan and his fallen angels were sentenced to the Lake of Fire. **Matthew 25:41**
5. At this trial, God was accused of being unrighteous for sentencing His creatures to everlasting punishment in the Lake of Fire. In order for God to prove his righteousness to the angels, He restored the earth from the destruction of the war. **Genesis 1:2**
6. Mankind was then created in the image of God in the continued effort to prove His righteousness. **Genesis 1:26-27; Romans 3:21-26**
7. Our courts today have a judge, jury, prosecutor and defender. Jesus is our defender and Satan is the prosecutor. The jury consists of all the angels, the saved people in heaven and all unsaved people in hell. **Revelation 12:10**
8. Those of us living on earth are the witnesses. Every time a person gets saved, it testifies to the righteousness of God. In order to discredit every witness for God, Satan has the legal right to challenge every believer in Christ. **Luke 22:31-32**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?