



0.6

I HAVE A PURPOSE

Based on our time with God, we are growing in the knowledge and understanding of His purposes, and therefore our purpose here on earth.

So why are we still here? If your salvation and rebirth is the reboot of our lives, why didn't Jesus take you to paradise immediately? What is the point of this new life now?

ALIGNMENT

We get to learn what God's purposes are
and
we get to learn how to align with those purposes.

Q. What do you think God's purposes are? (Hint: What do you think His purpose was in saving you?)

I Peter 2:9-10 (9) But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. (10) Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

There are two short but important phrases in this passage that we can easily skip over. The first is "you are". This is a clear identity statement about God's people, including you and me. (For further study on our new identity, see Lesson 0.2 Reborn.)

The second phrase we easily skip over is “that you may proclaim”-ESV, (“Now you must tell”-CEV, “that ye should shew”-KJV). Our identity allows us to live into a new purpose and this is a beginning statement for that new purpose.

Q. What, in your own words, is Peter saying our new purpose is?

Peter lists the privileges of being identified as God’s people first. We get to be chosen by God; we are now a royal priesthood. We are holy nation and a people for God’s own possession. This is the identity of those who are saved by Christ through his sacrifice, death, and resurrection. However, it doesn’t stop with just a new identity.

Consider these words by Warren Wiersbe: “All of these privileges carry with them one big responsibility: revealing the praises of God to a lost world. The verb translated “show forth” means “to tell out, to advertise.” Because the world is “in the dark,” people do not know the “excellencies” of God; but they should see them in our lives. Each citizen of heaven is a living “advertisement” for the virtues of God and the blessings of the Christian life. Our lives should radiate the “marvelous light” into which God has graciously called us.” (*The Bible Exposition Commentary, vol. 2; Wheaton, IL, 1996*)

The words ‘show forth’ or ‘proclaim’ here are key. What does it mean to “proclaim the excellencies...”? Are we supposed to shout out from our roofs or street corners? I know you might be thinking, “Please no, please no...”. But is that the only way to proclaim?

In this Greek word “exangello” there are suggestions of reporting, make public, celebrating, etc. “Proclaim” includes publicly living a life that celebrates God, the one who brought you out of darkness into His wonderful light. This would mean talking about Him certainly, but that doesn’t limit your celebration of Him. Always keep in mind, however, that it does need to be public, as the word “exangello” implies.

Pray for God to reveal ways you can uniquely reveal God to your sphere of influence.



Q. List some ways could you publicly ‘proclaim’ God to your world and in your leadership.

From your list above, circle the one you are willing to commit to practicing, starting today.

LEADERSHIP CONNECTION QUESTION

Q. What is your purpose at work, and how does that change the culture of your business?

RESOURCES FOR NEXT STEPS

- Watch

The Sacred Work Podcast (Download Spotify)

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/48EL1nTMFFOoDKOUtUbsYZ>

ReFrame Episode 8: Strangers and Exiles

<https://www.reframecourse.com/episodes/episode-8>

- RightNow Media @WorkStudy

<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/925>

- Bible Study

Testimony

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-verses-about-testimony.html>