

The Purposeful
CHRISTIAN
LIFE

Why Are We Here?

RAY EMMANUEL

*The
Purposeful*
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LIFE**

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THE PURPOSEFUL CHRISTIAN LIFE

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Chapter One

“LIVING IN SHADOWS”

Growing up as a Christian, I have seen diverse ideologies presented as the purpose of Christianity. Until I got exposed to the true gospel of Jesus Christ I swallowed in all those ideas and lived with them. What that did to me was pretty devastating- it crippled my faith and stunted my growth.

I lived in shadows all those years of my life. The thing about being fed with false information about God is that it messes you up big time and leaves you frustrated. I have been there and I have experienced what it feels like.

This is why I write; to bring you to a place of realization of the simple reality of the Gospel so that you will not go where I once was.

We have put this book together to help you see once and for all what the purpose of Christianity is. We strongly believe that after reading this book the scales of religion will fall off your eyes. We also believe that after reading this book the ‘Christianity’ thing will be real and meaningful to you. You will discover a far greater purpose for your existence and you will be inspired to live no more in shadows but in reality.

In this book we will deal with mindsets, we will address myths that have held many captive to religion.

We will open up scriptures that will make things clearer to you. While travelling through the pages of this book, the power of God will touch your life in special ways. Healings and miracles will be ministered to you as you read.

Make notes, highlight key texts and equip yourself with the realities you will discover in the pages of this material. I call you blessed.

Chapter Two

“FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE?”

Examining the various ideas and concepts that have been presented as the purpose of Christianity over the years, I asked myself severally whether coming to Christ was for better or for the worse? It is as if people are better off until they come to Christ.

Due to the wrong picture that has been presented to people as Christianity, some people view Christianity more like a burden because it has been preached that it is a call to **LIVE A HOLY LIFE** to please God. The bottom line of this assertion is that if one claims to be a Christian, it must imply that he or she must begin to live in a certain way and follow certain rules and regulations in order to be acceptable to the LORD.

In short, they view Christianity as a call to do your best to impress God in order to eventually make it to heaven. This assertion is not just wrong but dangerous! People who subscribe to this mindset mostly have inner struggles. They feel far from God. They wallow in guilt because they see daily that they are failing God. They realize they are unable to meet the religious demands.

In their hearts they feel they have either missed the mark or they have not done enough. Apostle Paul noticed this “madness” with the church in GALATIA and he had to rebuke them sharply. Look at this:

GALATIANS 3:1

“O Foolish Galatians! Who has deceived you that you should not obey the truth, it was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was portrayed crucified?”

He called them FOOLISH! Why? They were deviating from the Christian truth. They were following after LEGALISM instead of simply focusing on the finished work of Christ!

He continues to say in verse 3:

“Are you so foolish? You began in the Spirit, why are you now trying to be made perfect by the flesh?”

You see their problem? You see why Apostle Paul called them FOOLISH? They were trying to attain perfection by the flesh. This means they were trying to prove to God and people holiness by morality.

Specifically, they were being misled by some preachers to go back to observe the Law of Moses and be circumcised in order to be righteous! That was absurd!

He told them in verse 5:

“God supplies you his spirit and works miracles among you. Does He do it because you observe the Law of Moses or because you have faith in Christ through the Gospel you received?”

Again, it is clear! We see that Faith in Christ is totally different from the obedience of the LAW. We have been called to Faith in Christ NOT to observe the Law of Moses to be Holy and Righteous.

It is in Christ that we HAVE BEEN justified and declared Holy.

Apostle Paul now adds in **verse 11** to make his point clear:

“It is evident that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God but by faith in Christ. The just shall live by faith”.

I have met several believers who are trapped in this dilemma.

They are under pressure to please God and men. This is not Christianity, it is called LEGALISM. Legalism is trying to please or impress God with good behavior and works. This kind of ideology only produces hypocrites in our churches and false converts. In the realm of legalism you are always focused on YOU rather than THE FINISHED WORK OF CHRIST.

A lot of people refuse to join the church or get identified with the Christian faith because of this concept. This concept makes Christianity look like a mere BEHAVIOUR MODIFICATION PROGRAMME. All of a sudden, all eyes are on you because you are a Christian! Pens and sheets are up to mark how you talk, walk, dress, where you go and what you do.

It is as though the moment you identify yourself as a Christian you are exposed to the scrutiny of people, as if it is your job to impress them and God but that is not what Christianity really is. I do not mean to say that being “good” is wrong. I do not also mean to say that living a good life and putting up excellent attitude is absolutely unnecessary.

It is fundamental for every HUMAN BEING (not just Christians) to lead good lives for the benefits of themselves and others at large.

What I am dealing with here is a religious mindset. Look at this verse it will awaken your mindset to a higher reality:

1 CORINTHIANS 2:14-15

“But the natural man does not receive the things of the spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned”.

Verse 15 continues to say:

“But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is judged by no one”

You see! We are not at the mercies of man's judgement for credibility. Christianity is the highest life! Surely we abound in good works, not to be Holy but as Holy People! Not to be righteous but as righteous people. Our good works is not even a proof of our Christianity.

Don't forget, there are "non-Christians" who also do good works.

Does that mean that they are saved? No! Man is not saved by good works. Apostle Paul clears this in Ephesians 2.

Ephesians 2:8-9

“For By Grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God. Not of works, so that no one should boast.”

In Romans 3:24, He says again:

“And you are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.”

So, you see, the purpose of Christianity is not merely a call to live a certain life of **DOS** and **DONTS** to please God. We are pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ.

Look at this verse:

EPHESIANS 1:4

“He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world that we should be holy and without blame”

Now **Verse 5** Says:

“He predestined us to be adopted as His sons through Jesus Christ, In Accordance with his pleasure and will”

Look at **Verse 6:**

*“To The praise of His glorious grace, by which he has **FREELY** made us **ACCEPTED** in his beloved son”*

You see, we are accepted in Christ freely. There is no price to pay to be accepted, why? Jesus has paid the price! Glory!

Chapter Three

“JOIN THIS WAR?”

Another idea people have fabricated about Christianity is this; they assume that God is at war with Satan and He is recruiting men to fill them with the Holy Ghost to help him fight that battle. People who buy this idea see Christianity as a WAR.

Deep in their minds there is a war going on and they will not sleep nor rest until Satan is defeated. Christians who subscribe to this idea are very conscious of demons.

Their prayers are mostly centered on demonic operations and attacks. Their attention is never fixed on Christ Jesus and the realities of the life he has brought us.

To them, it is always about the devil, it is always about witches and wizards; demons here and demons there! Such people have not yet entered **GOD'S REST**. The thing is this; our purpose as Christians IS NOT to fight witches and wizards. God has not called us to help him fight SATAN. Jesus Christ defeated Satan in full.

No responsible father adds his children to his battles.

A Good father leaves inheritance for his Children not battles. God is a good father. In Christ, He has fought and won every spiritual battle. He has won the victory for us.

Though many so called Christians struggle to embrace this due to the things they hear and see around them, it remains the TRUTH.

Look at these two scriptures carefully, they settle this matter:

COLOSSIANS 2:15

“And having disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities, He made a public show of them, triumphing over them by the cross”

HEBREWS 2:14

“Therefore, since the children are of flesh and blood, He too shared in their humanity (becoming flesh and blood too)

so that by His death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death”

This is very clear! Just as David defeated Goliath with one stone, so has God destroyed the powers and authority of the devil with one cross.

The only power the devil has is what we give him. In actual sense he has no power except we give him.

What we need to do is to renew our minds and align our thinking to this truth.

The more we focus on the so called DEVIL and idolize him in our minds, the more power we give him over us in our minds. If the enemy is powerful, it is in your mind.

Just like a balloon needs air from you to bloat so does the devil and his cohorts need your attention and credence to feel big and powerful.

Chapter Four

“WHAT ABOUT EPHESIANS 6?”

Honestly, I think Ephesians 6 has been so abused. Without proper studies a lot of Christians use verse 12 as a motivation to wage war against Satan and his cohorts. Light doesn't fight darkness.

The presence of light is the disappearing of darkness. When light is turned on, darkness ceases to exist. We are the lights of God.

Look at **verse 12 of Ephesians 6:**

*“For we do not **WRESTLE** against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.”*

Look at **verse 13:**

“Therefore take the whole amour of God, that you may be able to withstand

in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”

You will get detailed explanations of the whole chapter of EPHESIANS 6 in my book entitled “**The Weapons Of Our Warfare**”. But allow me to give you a summary of this here.

First of all, no verse in this chapter is suggesting that go and fight demons. The last words in verse 13 say, **TO STAND** not **TO FIGHT**.

Why? Because Jesus has FOUGHT and won so we STAND in his victory.

Please take note of the words in bold. Wrestling is about **STANDING**; no matter how hard your opponent tries to put you down.

The principalities, powers, rulers of darkness, spiritual hosts all exist, but they exist as a bunch of defeated entities, they use scary dreams,

regular life matters and normal challenges of life to create impressions of fear.

Our “WRESTLE” is not for victory, it is from victory. We are in the realm of victory; they are in the realm of defeat. We are not fighting FOR victory.

We are standing in DEFENCE of our victory in Christ. We are in government; they are in opposition, never to return to power anymore.

They don't have the authority we have, except we give them.

They may make noises, scream, roar, protest. They will use dreams and experiences, as we have seen earlier, to attempt to make us assume that they have the power, but they are all lies.

We are in charge. That is the **WRESTLING!** The wrestling means that we refuse to bow to their empty threats.

It is like a toothless and clawless lion trying to scare you! You will be a fool to be afraid!

We saw in **Colossians 2:14** that Jesus has taken away their teeth and claws. He has disarmed them.

This means He has taken away their weapons. Glory! Satan has no weapon to use against you!

You might have heard messages that decorated Satan as a superpower with diverse weapons set against you. They are all lies, not according to the GOSPEL.

Prophet Isaiah gave a very beautiful prophesy about the New Creation years ago, before Jesus was manifested. Look at it:

ISAIAH 54:16 – 17

“Behold, I have created the blacksmith who blows the coals in the fire, who brings forth an instrument for his work; And I have created the spoiler to destroy. No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises up against you in judgement you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their RIGHTEOUSNESS is of me,” says the LORD.

Before this, He first said in **verse 15**:

“Indeed, they shall surely gather, but not because of me. Whosoever assembles against you shall FALL for your sake”.

Indirectly, this prophecy was for us in Christ too. Every promise of God in Christ is YES. You see, it is clear! These are realities for us. They are not prayer topics we raise. This is not something we pray for, it is a knowledge we pray from.

They are our default settings. God has put these measures in place for us. In our prayer, we thank HIM for making such provisions for us. This is the LIFESTYLE OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH.

The weapons of the so called principalities, powers, rulers of darkness, and spiritual hosts of wickedness WILL NOT PROSPER.

Why? Jesus Christ has disarmed them! When they gather against us they fall.

If we walk in this knowledge, we will loose our fear of the devil and his cohorts forever.

But, when we reject this truth, we will forever live in fear although Jesus has made the provision for us.

Again we have seen here that the purpose of our Christianity is not to join God fight SATAN AND HIS COHORTS but to stand and enjoy the victory of God for us in Christ.

Chapter Five

“WHY ARE WE HERE?”

By now you'd be asking: “If our purpose is not to fight witches and wizards, why are we here?” “If we are not here to “live a holy life” to please God, what have we been called to do?”

I will dwell on this matter a little longer because this is the purpose of this book.

Why were we not taken up into heaven the day we got Born Again? Why are we here on earth? These are credible Questions. We shall soon find out the answers. Let us look at this verse of scripture for in it we will see the true purpose of Christianity. We shall see why God left us here on earth after we were saved.

First, Let's Examine THIS:

1 PETER 2:9

“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people, that you may show forth the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light”

This is beautiful! Chosen generation, royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people! Let us take a moment and look at the job of a PRIEST as told by the prophet MALACHI:

MALACHI 2:7

“For the LIPS of a priest ought to preserve knowledge, and from HIS MOUTH men should seek instruction (teaching) because he is the MESSENGER of the LORD almighty.”

Our job as new covenant priests is not to fight Satan or strive for perfection through the flesh. That was not even the job of the Old Testament priests!

Our job is to show forth the praises of God. This does not mean singing songs of praises to God merely. It is deeper than that. The original word for SHOW FORTH in the Greek is EKSAGGELLO.

It means to declare, announce or fully proclaim.

Same word is used in **Mark 16:20:**

“And the disciples went out and PREACHED (declared, announced, fully proclaimed) everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed His word by the signs that accompanied it”

This is so clear! Glory to Jesus! To show forth the PRAISES of God is to fully announce His Gospel to the world. Some call it SOUL WINNING. Others call it EVANGELISM.

Whichever way it is, this is our purpose on earth. To let men know of the riches of God's grace. It is not of our own ability, it is God that has made us so; to declare the realities of Christ to all men.

All sins forgiven, the slate wiped clean, Satan and his cohorts disarmed, righteousness imparted freely.

God has done all this for us so that we can freely sponsor and promote his Gospel. Paul emphasizes this here:

2 CORINTHIANS 3:5-6

“Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. He has made us competent ministers of a new covenant- not of the letter (the old covenant) but of the spirit (the ministry

of Jesus); for the letter kills, but the SPIRIT gives life”.

You see, we have been ENABLED by God to preach Christ not to preach the Law of Moses or other Religious ideas. We don't go out there pointing people to their sins. We rather point people to Jesus Christ. We are to let men know of the free gift of his salvation in Christ through any means possible.

It is called the ministry of the SPIRIT. This is the Gospel- the Good News! Good News about what? Good News about Jesus Christ- his death that paid for sins once and for all and his resurrection that brought us justification for free. Apostle Paul calls it the Gospel of God. It means the GOOD NEWS ABOUT GOD. Look at it:

ROMANS 1:1

“Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to BE an Apostle and set apart for the Gospel of God.”

See how Apostle Paul describes himself here. He sees himself as an apostle, a special messenger, dedicated to declare the Good News.

A lot of people know God but in accuracy.

God has been misrepresented by diverse religions and we have the august privilege of letting men know the good news about God.

In verse 2 and 3 he shows us what the Gospel is.

“The Gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures CONCERNING HIS SON, who at his human nature was a descendant of David.”

The scripture we read from 1 **PETER 2:9** earlier revealed to us that we have been chosen; we are not waiting to be chosen. We **HAVE BEEN** chosen to declare the gospel of God to those around us.

This is so important to the Lord. That is why He left us here on earth, as his agents, that through us others will come to know of the free gift of His salvation in Christ.

This is what the early disciples did.
Look at these verses from the book
of ACTS:

ACTS 8:25

*“When they had testified and
proclaimed the word of the Lord, Peter
and John returned to Jerusalem,
preaching THE GOSPEL in many
Samaritan villages”*

ACTS 8:40

“Philip, however, appeared in Azotus and travelled about, preaching the THE GOSPEL in all the towns until he reached Caesarea”.

ACTS 16:10

“After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach THE GOSPEL to them”.

ACTS 20:24

“However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, If only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to THE GOSPEL of God’s Grace”.

This is our purpose too! We too have received apostleship! It was not for just Peter, Philip, Paul and the other disciples.

It is not for “PASTORS” only. It is for each and every one of us in Christ. Just as the message of God’s grace was passed on to us, we too are responsible for passing it onto others. Apostle Paul once again clarifies this to the church in ROME:

ROMANS 1:5

*“Through Him and for his name’s sake,
we RECEIVED grace and
APOSTLESHIP to call people from
among the Gentiles to the
OBEDIENCE that comes from
FAITH”.*

People are living in sin-
consciousness instead of Christ-
consciousness. People are still under
the bondage of the Law of Moses.

People are ignorant of their TRUE identity in Christ. If we do not proclaim fully this Gospel to them they will wallow in ignorance and perish. Only the gospel has the power to change a man's life really and give eternal life. Motivational messages will inspire people but cannot bring eternal life. Religious and political philosophies cannot also SAVE. Only the Gospel of God saves!

Apostle Paul makes this clear here:

ROMANS 1:16

“I am not ashamed of the Gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes; first for the Jew, then for the gentile”

He adds in verse 17:

“For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written; “The Just shall live by faith”

We are a holy people; we are not striving for holiness. Holy is what we are. The scripture we read in **1 PETER 2:9** confirmed this. You can go back and read it again.

Chapter Six

“KINGS AND PRIESTS”

We are royals, born from God's own realm, bearing his name and life. As if that was not enough, we are His Priests! The thing is, in the Old Testament kings weren't allowed to be priests and priests weren't allowed to be kings BUT here we are: In Christ, we are

blessed with double honor- ROYAL PRIESTHOOD.

This means we are Kings and Priests all in one. God has done all these for us so that we can be free to SHARE THE GOSPEL with boldness.

We do this with pleasure, seeing that the salvation of men is at stake too. We invest our time, energy and resources into this. This is why we GIVE.

When we understand this assignment, giving ceases to be burden.

Christians that struggle to give into the things of God have not yet seen this reality!

Look at what Paul said about the Macedonia CHURCH concerning giving;

2 CORINTHIANS 8;1-5

“And now brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they GAVE AS MUCH AS they were able, even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently PLEADED with us for the PRIVILEGE of sharing in this service to the saints.”

This is touching! The churches in Macedonia gave to support the work of the preaching of the Gospel. They were not giving for BREAKTHROUGH, They were not giving for TWENTY-FOUR HOUR MIRACLE, they were not giving to TAP INTO ANOINTING, they were not giving to GET MORE to satisfy their GREED; they gave for the Gospel to move!

Their giving was not a business transaction with God! It was a pure act of LOVE for the Lord and His Gospel. That is generosity! When you see how generous God has been to you in Christ it will naturally make you generous towards God too. What do we have that He didn't give us? What can we give in his name that he can't give us back? Our giving proves that we trust God as our supplier!

Friends, this is what we live for! This is an exhibition of holiness-expressing kindness towards the things of God. This is what benefits the kingdom, not the false, legalistic and self-righteous way of life many are bragging with. Some have been in church for thirty years, very self-righteous yet stingy towards the things of God, never even won a soul! It is not late, they can begin now!

It means so much to God that Jesus is known by all men. Jesus is the Hope of the world. Only in him can men find LIFE. Every eye must see Jesus! Every heart must cherish him! He must be the center of attraction not the Law of Moses or some religious ideas, no!

Jesus Christ is he that the world must gather for. Prophet Isaiah said it here:

ISAIAH 11:10

“In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a BANNER for the peoples; the nations will RALLY TO HIM and his place of rest will be GLORIOUS”.

Who is this root of Jesse the prophet was talking about? He was referring to JESUS CHRIST! Glory!

See For Yourself:

ROMANS 1:2-3

“The Gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures CONCERNING HIS SON, who at his human nature was a descendant of David. (a son of JESSE)”

Out of revelation and love we give ourselves to the spreading of the gospel. This is why we are here!

Chapter Seven

“SAVED FOR WHAT?”

We have been saved to save. We have been called to build men up in Christ not to destroy and condemn people. Christianity is not a force for condemning or pointing fingers!

We can't be ashamed, because our mandate is not a shameful one, it is a glorious one.

What is shameful about sharing the Gospel of grace with a friend at the office, or a stranger in a bus, or a family member?

What is shameful in giving your money and time to the preaching of the Gospel? Absolutely nothing!

Look at our world today! See the programmes on television! They have PROUD SPONSORS!

How many of these programmes bring men to salvation? Yet companies proudly sponsor them.

Friends, *our prosperity is meaningless if it is not linked to the promotion of the Gospel.*

We are God's own workmanship created in Christ unto GOOD

WORKS! What are these Good Works?

They are the things we do to promote this gospel of Jesus Christ! They are the things we do to make sure that men are established in the faith.

That is what God ordained for us from the foundation of the world.

Look at this below:

EPHESIANS 2:10

“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ unto good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do”

In context, the GOOD works mentioned in EPHESIANS 2:10 were not merely talking about being morally upright and nice, no!

Our moral uprightness is good for us and for those around us but it does not carry the power to bring salvation to people; only the Gospel has that power. We saw this earlier in Romans 1:16.

We could all focus on being morally upright and nice but if we don't spread this gospel, if we don't support this Gospel with our resources, no one will ever be saved!

God has not programed that people should be saved by looking at how good we are. SELAH!

Even if people are motivated by our lifestyle to follow us to church, they **MUST** still hear and embrace the **GOSPEL** to receive eternal life.

Apostle Paul said here:

ROMANS 10:13 - 15

“Everyone who calls upon the name of the LORD will be saved. How can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without SOMEONE PREACHING TO THEM? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring GOOD NEWS!’”

Chapter Eight

“FINALLY”

Sin is NOT charged into our account! We have been forgiven! We have been redeemed! We have been made righteous! We have been justified! We have been made SONS! We have maximum security and divine health at work in us! We have been

anointed by God! And we have been sent!

We have grace and apostleship from Christ Jesus himself. We saw this in **Romans 1:5.**

Imagine that you have children at home who never do anything “wrong” YET they never do anything useful!

They don't clean, they don't wash, they don't go on errands for you etc. How glad is this?

What benefit is to God if all you do is trying avoid "sinning" yet you never reach out to another person with the Gospel? When one soul turns to the Lord, the whole of heaven rejoices! Not when one Christian flees from "sinning"! Selah!

We have a common purpose and a common vision- it is to see Jesus preached and glorified amongst men.

In proclaiming Christ Jesus, miracles, healings and diverse transformation of lives will be seen by the power of God.

This is what we shall be honored for by the Lord. **Ryan Rufus** said, and I close with this: *“God didn’t leave us here on earth to see how many sins we*

can overcome. He left us here to see how many lives we can touch with his message of grace". I Call You Blessed!

ABOUT US

It is our mission to present the pure Gospel Of JESUS Christ in all its FULLNESS to all the world with CLARITY, PRECISION and SIMPLICITY; making real the king who lives in you, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Zion Princes Church is HOME; where we constantly gather to equip believers to effectively receive and distribute the word, marked with manifestations of the character of the Spirit. Feel welcomed to join any of our meetings at any of our locations, you will be glad you did.

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For further information, enquiries, ministry materials, prayer and counselling, reach us;

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