

Life's Unavoidable Question

We live in an era of unprecedented upheaval. While some ignore it, observant people see a world overflowing with gloomy realities. Today, many live with depression, fear, anxiety, loneliness, health or financial problems, trauma, or war. And for all of us, our future is uncertain. Solutions are elusive. Even our planet is on the brink of disaster. Our world is unwinding.

In contrast, when we look at our planet's less corrupted, stunning beauty and the meticulous balance and complexity of life, we grasp a crucial truth: Our world isn't an accident. It was created. This teaches us that the original creation was even more awe-inspiring than it is today. It can also teach us about our Creator's nature.

When the Creator made this majestic universe and earth, he also created living creatures. He made humans to be in a relationship with him as part of his divine family. His intention was for us to enjoy a healthy, vibrant life. Unfortunately, that "Garden of Eden" came to an abrupt end.

What happened?

Our Creator seeks our loyalty, but he doesn't demand it. He doesn't want a robot-like relationship. Instead, he gave us freedom. At the center of this freedom is our choice to accept or reject him.

Unfortunately, the first humans rejected a loyal relationship with their Creator. Instead, they elected to follow a deceit-inspired quest to become god-like themselves. This vain pursuit still plagues us. The result is pain, death, and evil.

Since our compassionate Creator lives outside of time, he knew we would betray him, so he built a solution into his creation plan. Thankfully, he provided us with a way out. There is a way; one way, to be reinstated into his divine family.

Sadly, restoration into his family came at an unbelievably high price. It required our Creator's own life. His sacrificial death demonstrates the depth of his love for us. If there had been another

way to give us a path to restoration, he would have taken it. This was the only way to fix the problem.

Since our Creator is also the author of justice, the penalty for rebellion had to be satisfied. So, he did the unfathomable. By a supernatural act, he became human, lived a perfect life, and died in our place. This act of love satisfied justice and opened the door to restoration.

Today, just as with the first humans, we all face a crucial decision. Will we let our Creator begin the restoration process so we can enjoy the vibrant, creative, purpose-oriented life he intends for us? Or do we reject him, follow the old path, pretend we are God, and try to self-help our way out?

It's Your Choice.

A review of world history shows us how well the 'self-help' method works. It has never succeeded for nations or individuals. Look at us. Humanity is not getting better. The human race is broken. We need to admit it; we can't fix ourselves.

Advances in genetic engineering, biotechnology, psychology, and social programs will not restore the goodness lost when we turn our back on our Creator. It's gone.

When we wear blinders to limit truth to physical-world science, we fail to observe evidence of the spiritual. But for those willing to look, our world overflows with proof of meticulous design, and evidence that our Creator loves beauty and us.

Today, objective science confirms that there was an intelligence behind creation. Still, those who cling to old science, the deniers, are afraid to acknowledge a Creator. Why? It's because it reveals what they want to avoid. Accountability.

So, what can we do? The truth is, *we* can't *do* anything. We can't fix the problem. Thankfully, our Creator is willing to do that for us.

There is only one solution. Our Creator, Jesus of the Bible, is the only solution. If there had been another way, he would not have sacrificed his life. He sacrificed his life to fix our problem.

Pride and rebellion have always been core issues. This is what severed our relationship, ruined our DNA, brought death, and damaged our planet.

Thankfully, there is a 'good news' aspect to this story. Still, with this good news, we must clarify a common misconception. *Judgment Day* is not when our Creator puts our life on a cosmic scale to see if it tips more toward *good* rather than *evil*. Our problem is more straightforward.

We can't fix our problem, but our Creator will fix it for us. We just need to let him. Today, we have the choice to accept or reject his help. On Judgment Day, he will acknowledge our decision.

We can't avoid making this choice. In this life, we make a yes/no decision to accept his free gift. Indecision or inaction is just a way to say "no."

Something else we can't ignore is that hell is real, and it's not simply a place of fiery torment. It is separation from our Creator, a place of perpetual loneliness, where hope, goodness, and joy are forever lost. It's a place of unquenchable regret.

Occupants of hell will understand that they could have had a vibrant life for eternity. They could have enjoyed the source of love, creativity, and beauty. But their ego and pride blocked the path.

Today, we have a choice. But on Judgment Day, it will be too late.

Just as a responsible parent wants their child to have a good life, Jesus wants that for us. So today, he gives us the opportunity to live with him forever as a part of his divine family. It's our choice.

Our creator wants to give us a vibrant, fear-free life today and an eternal future in which we are valued and loved immensely. He treasures us beyond what we can comprehend.

Bottomline, he has invited us to rejoin his family.

This isn't religion. It's an offer of relationship.

In the classic sci-fi movie, *The Matrix*, the choice was to take the 'blue pill' of denial or the 'red pill', which led to uncomfortable truth and real life. For us, it's a similar decision. Which do you choose?

It may sound impossible, but once we accept his gift, he changes us, not into a god but into a divine human creation. We start a fresh new life in a close, eternal relationship with our uncreated Creator. This new life includes forgiveness for our failures, no matter how great, and the opportunity to revel in a jubilant, purpose-filled eternity.

It's Your Choice.

We don't need to dread the day that our earthly body will die. We needn't fear death when it's a transition to life in the presence of our Creator. Does this sound too good to be true? It's not.

Consider this, too. We don't know if we will have another opportunity to accept our Creator's gift of eternal life with him. So, today is decision time. Today may be your last chance to decide. Which will you choose? The blue pill or the red?

Acceptance: Talk to your Creator. He's listening. Tell him you don't want to be rebellious toward him and acknowledge that you have failed to live up to his standards. Ask for forgiveness, and tell him you want to be restored into his divine family. When you do this, he will do the rest. You don't need to jump through any additional hoops. With believing loyalty comes an instantly restored relationship with our Creator.

If you are sincere, you will want to share your decision with others; it's the loving thing to do. And, you will want to get to know your Creator. He gave us the Holy Bible to help us understand more. Divinely inspired, it teaches us about our Creator and his relationship with us. Start by reading the sections; "Luke" (a physician who lived in Jesus' era) and "John" (a disciple of Jesus).

Fact Check: To verify this information, you can use free online resources such as AllAboutGod.com or BlueLetterBible.org. Or better yet, use the Bible itself. Newer translations of the Bible, such as the "New Living Translation" (easy-to-read) and the "New American Standard Bible" (more precise), provide added clarity.