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WHY THIS WORLD?

Mini Book

Part 1

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“BETWEEN HEAVEN & HELL.”

Introduction

Why did the LORD God create this world as we see it today? Why are we here on this earth today? The answer to these two questions should be known by every person living today.

God wants people in heaven just like His Son, Jesus. God wants people to replace Lucifer (Satan) and many angels who are no longer in heaven worshiping before the throne of God (Jude 1:6; 2 Peter 2:4; Rev. 4:10,11, 5:8-14).

God has already done all that He can so that you and I can inherit eternity in heaven, and worship and praise God before His throne. Now, it is up to us individually, to do our part and search the Scriptures and believe the Word of God, and make the right decisions in our lives, that we can take the place of those angels in heaven who left their first estate.

What happened in the beginning that we have the earth here in God's great eternity? The best way to answer that question is, God is all knowing. God has all knowledge. God has great plans for everyone who will agree with God.

Eternity is forever. That is what eternity means. In eternity everything exists forever and ever. God is eternal. That means God is from the beginning of eternity to the end of eternity.

The word God, means "a Deity, supreme in power and authority." Satan is also called "the god of this world" (2 Cor. 4:4). Satan is "deity" also, but Satan's deity is limited by God. Satan is a created being, whereas God is the creator of all created beings.

Man is not "deity." Man does not have "supreme power and authority." Therefore, man is always subject to a higher power, someone who is "deity."

Understanding this, we must search the Scriptures for the answers to all our question concerning God and man (also Satan, who is the Devil). Only in the Scriptures will we find the answers to our most vital questions.

In The Beginning

The word “beginning” only means the beginning of what is spoken of. It does not always mean the first time something came into existence. Many Christians have made mistakes thinking the word beginning is from the first time something happened.

In Genesis 1:1 it says, **“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”** It does not say, in the beginning “the LORD Jesus Christ” created the heavens and the earth.” It says, God (“elohiyim” in the Hebrew) created the heavens and the earth. The Hebrew word “elohiyim” is the plural form of the word “el” which is the singular form identifying God.

This is important to understand, for in John 1:1-3 it says **“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God....The same was in the beginning with God....All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.”** Then in John 1:10 it says, **“He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.”** Then in Colossians 1:16,17 it says, **“For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:...And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.”**

Why do we need all this information? Simply, because of two things. One thing is that English translations of the Bible do not tell us everything we need to know. The other reason is because of a lack of knowledge of what it says in the Hebrew and Greek we can be misled and we can get into great error, not knowing the truth. In Hosea 4:6 it says, **“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children”** Knowledge has been given to us by God in His written Word. If we reject what God said to us in the Hebrew and Greek, and only go by the English translations, we could be deceived by a lack of knowledge. God said, if we reject the knowledge He gave us, He may also reject us (Hosea 4:6).

God goes by His Word, not man’s word. God goes by what He said, not by what men say. It is important to understand this, and be doers of the Word of God, not the words of men.

The word “beginning” in Genesis Chapter One, verse One, tells us that God “in three persons” created the heaven and the earth first.

The word “beginning” in John Chapter One, verses One through Three tells us that “Jesus” who is called “the Word of God” recreated the earth as it is today. We see this mentioned a number of times throughout the New Testament.

If only men would understand the Written Word of God, they could become doers of the Word and not hearers only.

Why is it important to understand that God in three persons created the heavens and the earth in the beginning (the very beginning—before Genesis 1:2)? Simply, because a lot took place in eternity before the LORD God created man in Genesis 2:7. Before the first seven days of this creation, many things happened in the heavens.

The Bible tells us a lot about what happened before Genesis 1:2. In Proverbs, 8:22-30 it tells us of when God the Father created the earth in the beginning, while the Son of God was with Him, beholding all that the Father did.

All the angels were created before Genesis 1:2. In Ezekiel 28:12-20 it tells us of Satan who was the most beautiful of all the angels. He was before the throne of God. How he walked up and down in the garden of God. He was perfect in the day that he was created (Ezek. 28:15).

Then it tells us of when Satan's heart was lifted up because of his beauty. How God saw the iniquity that was in him. How that God warned Satan of his destruction and casting out of the third heavens if he did not repent. Satan rebelled against God's plan for him. By his rebellion he lost his eternal position in the third heavens.

In Isaiah 14:12-20 it tells us of Lucifer's (now called Satan, the Devil), position after "he did not repent," and was already cast down to the earth. Isaiah 14:12 says, "**How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!**" Jesus spoke of this time in Luke 10:18 when He said, "**I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.**" Jesus was there in heaven when Lucifer (the Devil), was cast down to the earth. The earth was already there before Genesis 1:2, when Lucifer (the Devil) was cast down to the earth.

Before Lucifer (the Devil) was cast down to the earth, he had deceived multitudes of angels. In Jude 1:6 it says, "**And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.**" What happened in heaven before this earth as we see it today? Satan and many angels were cast out of the third heavens from before the throne of God.

Why was Lucifer (the Devil), and those angels in the third heavens before the throne of God? God had created the angels and had given them knowledge of His will for their eternal existence. Ezekiel 28:12 says, "**Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.**" Satan knew the total plan of God for his eternal existence. But, he sealed it up and would not follow God's plan for his existence. In other words, he had disrespect for the wonderful plan God had for him.

Warning: Never have disrespect for God's wonderful plan for your life. Find out what God's plan is for your life. Then be a doer of what God planned for your eternal life.

What was Satan and the angels that left their first estate doing in heaven? From the Scriptures, we can see that they were praising and worshiping God before His throne in heaven. Satan was anointed with beauty and the ability to lead in praise and worship. The angels were there following the leading of Lucifer (now called Satan), as they praised and worshiped God before His throne.

So, what happened in the heavens before Genesis 1:2? God was in heaven. Many angels were still in heaven. Michael and his angels were still there. Gabriel and his angels were still there. But, the angels who were there to praise and worship God before His throne are no longer there.

But, God the Father had a Son, whom we know as Jesus. Jesus was the only Son that God the Father had. God did not have any other Son's. God the Father did not have any daughters. God the Father did not have any other children.

God the Father loved His Son, Jesus. Therefore, God revealed His plan from the beginning to His Son, Jesus. If we look in the Scriptures we will find a lot of information on what took place in heaven before Genesis 1:2.

Remember, God has all wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. God created "wisdom,

knowledge, and understanding.” God has foreknowledge of all things. God knows the end from the beginning. **“God is Spirit.”** God is omnipotent. That is, “God has unlimited power and authority.” God is also omnipresent. That is, “God is everywhere at all times.”

Being that God is omnipotent and omnipresent, God knew before Lucifer (now called Satan), rebelled and was cast out of the third heaven, what He would do after Satan was cast out of the heavens. God never does anything because of what Satan does or because of what man does. God does everything He does simply, because He is God. There never was a God like Him, before Him, and there will never be a God like Him after Him. He is forever and ever and there is none other like Him.

Here it is important to mention that God reveals things to us at different times in different ways. Sometimes God reveals things to us concerning the future (that is, things that have not as yet happened in our time). Sometimes, God reveals things to us that have already happened (that is long before we even knew we existed). Sometimes God speaks to us from His foreknowledge of things He knows about the future, but we did not know them. Sometimes God speaks to us from His position in heaven (where there is no time, it is always now in heaven). We need the help of the Holy Spirit to know what basis God is using when He reveals things to us. Is it present tense, past tense, or future tense?

In Proverbs 8:30,31 it tell us of when the Son of God was with the Father already when the world was first created. It says, **“Then I was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him....Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my delights were with the sons of men.”** Here it tells us the Son of God was rejoicing, and delighting over the sons of men. In the natural, there were no sons of men at that time in eternity. They were not created yet at that time. The Son of God created man in Genesis 2:7. Therefore, what is revealed in Proverbs 8:31 is the foreknowledge of God, revealing the time we are living at this time.

Hebrews 12:2 says, **“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”** Jesus saw our redemption already before we were created. Jesus saw how that He would go to the cross and deliver us from the powers of Satan, into the kingdom of God. Jesus knew then already, what He would do when He went to the Cross for us. For Jesus, He endured the cross, knowing the end results.

Understand, it was Jesus as “the LORD God,” who created man in the beginning (Gen. 2:7). It was Jesus who spoke in Genesis 2:15, saying, **“And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”** The Gospel was preached to Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden after they had sinned (after sin already entered into mankind). Adam and Eve’s sins were paid for by the blood of the Lamb that was slain from the foundation of the world (Rev. 13:8). God had already declared salvation for Adam and Eve before they were created (before the foundation of the world). It is the same with us today. Before we were born into this world, Jesus had already paid the price for our sins and iniquities.

Does this mean that Adam and Eve will be in heaven regardless of what they did? No. Adam and Eve, just like anyone else must believe on the only begotten Son of God and repent and receive Him if they are to enter into heaven. But, the opportunity for them to inherit eternal life in heaven was just as much for them as it is for us today. Jesus was not speaking only to a few when He said, **“...that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations,**

beginning at Jerusalem” (Luke 24:47). What Jesus revealed to us in Luke 24:47 was established before Adam and Eve were created and still holds for today.

So what happened between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2? Lucifer (now called Satan), and all the other angels were created. Lucifer deceived many of the angels and they left their first estate in heaven. They followed Lucifer, rather than the plan God had for them in heaven. Therefore, those who God created to praise and worship before the throne of God are no longer there. There was room for someone else to come and praise and worship before the throne in heaven.

Before Lucifer and the angels that left their first estate were cast out of the third heavens, they knew God’s plans for their existence. God had created them as angels. They had their beginning before the throne of God. They had the highest position anyone could have from the time that they were created.

Lucifer (now called Satan), and the angels that left their first estate had never experienced anything other than the wonderful, glorious, love and grace of God. They may not have had any idea of what hell was like, and what it would be for them if they had not chosen to do the will of God themselves. They were created before the throne of God and had never been anywhere else before they were created.

God had given them His Word, and they knew why God created them and what their future was to be. If they had believed God and not listened to Lucifer, they would still be in heaven before the throne of God. But, they listened to “the wrong voice,” the voice of the Devil. They followed Lucifer (the Devil), and left their first estate.

That is when God revealed His plan for this earth and you and I. What was His plan?

First, it tells us the earth was already here, and it was at one time inhabited. We do not know what kind of creatures inhabited the earth in the beginning. Those who have studied the earth and its foundation say the earth is many millions of years old. God did not say it is not millions of years old. God did not say that some of the bones and fossils that are being found were not from before Genesis 1:2. The Bible does tell us about the creation of this earth and the first flood that took place before the world we see now was recreated.

Christians get into error when they believe the teachings of men and say the earth is only about 6,000 years old. The Bible does not say that. There is a lot of information in the Bible that proves it is over 6,000 years old. Peter spoke of it in 2 Peter 3:5,6, saying, **“For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water...Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished”** Careful study of the Greek proves that Peter was not speaking of the flood of Noah’s time. Ignorance by Christians cause many problems for other Christians, the world, and even the Holy Spirit. God is not pleased when Christians teach things that do not agree with the Scriptures.

Now look at what it says in John 3:35, **“The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.”** What does it mean by **“all things”**? Simply, it means what it says, **“all things.”** Look what it says in Acts 2:36, **“Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.”** What does it mean by God hath made Jesus **“LORD”**? Lord in the Greek means, **“supreme in authority.”** When did God make Jesus **“supreme in authority”**?

The answer is simple, when God, through His Son created all that was created in Genesis 1:2-2:25. All things were created by Him and for Him (John 1:3; Col. 1:16,17; Heb. 1:2; Rev. 1:8, 4:11).

It was the LORD Jesus Christ, Himself, that created mankind to become like Him and partake of His divine nature (Gen. 1:26,27, 2:7, 1 Cor. 15:49). God wants more sons and daughters exactly like His Son, Jesus. God wants people who were created by Jesus to be like Jesus in every area of their lives.

God wanted to replace the angels from before the throne of God with people who will praise and worship Him forever and ever. Look at Revelation 4:8-11 which says, **“And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come....And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever,...The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying,...Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.”**

Who are the four and twenty elders? They are people who obeyed the LORD in this life and are now in heaven praising and worshipping before the throne, where Lucifer (the Devil), and the angels that left their first estate were at one time.

How many Christians truly desire to be among those in Revelation 4:8-11? This is God’s perfect plan for those who have been given life on this earth. It is not just for Christians, but for everyone who was ever born into this world. (But to get there, they must first become Christians through the New Birth (John 3:6)).

Why didn’t God just simply create us in heaven like He did with Lucifer and the angels who left their first estate? Let me give you what I feel is true.

God already had a situation whereby Lucifer and the angels who left their first estate decided not to follow God’s plan for their lives. What happened was that, “sin and iniquity had manifest in heaven.” God cannot have fellowship with sin and iniquity. God loves His heaven and desires to have only those in heaven who will do His will, not their own will and not the will of Satan. Only those who are willing, and want to serve a God of Love, peace, and joy will be in heaven.

God is not interested in having anyone in heaven that is not willing to do His will. God does not need another like Lucifer up in heaven. God does not need angels that leave their calling to follow the Devil. God does not want anyone in heaven who does not love Him, and goes off to serve another spirit being. God only desires those in heaven who are willing to believe Him, trust in Him and serve Him only.

God created Lucifer and the angels with a free will to choose if they wanted God to be their God or would they rebel against God to serve another? In heaven there can be none who do not love the LORD our God with all their heart, mind, soul, and strength. That is God’s first commandment. Only those who will obey God and love God will be in heaven.

The angels had a choice in heaven. They could love God and serve God, or they could rebel and serve the Devil (Lucifer). Many angels choose to serve the Devil.

Therefore, because God cannot have fellowship with sin or the works of darkness, God had His Son create man down here on earth. Satan was already here on earth when man was created. God gave man a choice between serving the Devil or serving God.

In the garden of Eden there were two trees, the tree of life and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. The tree of life represented the LORD God Himself. Jesus is the tree of life. If you don’t

believe it now, you will when you leave this earth. Satan represents the tree of knowledge of good and evil. If you don't believe it now, you will when leave this earth.

On the tree of life, there is the fruit of eternal life. On the tree of the knowledge of good and evil there are two fruits. There is the knowledge of good, and there is the knowledge of evil. Both of these fruits will produce death. Those that eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil will experience death. The first death they will experience is physical death. The second death they will experience is eternal death. See Revelation, Chapter twenty.

The Good News is, that through the new birth (John 3:6) we can receive eternal life, which overcomes eternal death. Eternal life always destroys eternal death. Jesus had eternal life when He came into this world born of the Holy Spirit and Mary. Jesus overcome eternal death for all those who will receive Him as their LORD and Savior.

Jesus also overcame physical death for those who will receive Him as their LORD and Savior. But for anyone to benefit from what Jesus did for them, they must receive Jesus Christ as their LORD and Savior and continue to keep Him as their LORD and Savior.

God could have created us in heaven as He did with Lucifer and the angels that left their first estate. But God has chosen to create man here on earth, where Satan was cast down to. God did that so that we could decide for ourselves who we will obey. God or Satan? Who will we serve, God or Satan? Who will we follow, Jesus or the Devil? We must choose here on earth, who will be our God? Who will be our master? The choice is ours, not Gods and not the Devils. We must choose who we will serve?

If we make the right choice and choose to serve Jesus Christ as our LORD and Savior, then when we leave this earth we will spend eternity with Jesus Christ and God the Father. If we do not choose to make Jesus Christ our LORD and Savior, we will automatically end up in hell serving the Devil.

The angels were tempted to serve Lucifer and many of them followed him. Those that did are now being held to be forever with Satan in hell. They made their choice.

What about people here on earth? What choice will they make? Will they love the LORD our God with all their heart, mind, soul, and strength? Or, will they love the world and all that it has to offer? Satan is the god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4). If we serve the world we automatically are serving Satan, who is the god of this world.

To love the world and the things of this world is also choosing to serve the Devil. In 1 John 2:15-17 says, **“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him....For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world....And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”** Many Christians go around as though these verses are not in the Bible. Do not become one of them. Make the right choice and choose to follow Jesus and not love the world and the things of this world.

Jesus spoke to the Church of the Laodiceans concerning this same thing. Jesus said, **“I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.... So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth....Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked”**(Rev. 3:15-17).

It is sad that many Christians desire the things of this world more than they desire the LORD

our God. Many Christians have their eyes upon material things when they should be seeking the things of heaven instead. In Colossians 3:1,2 says, **“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God....Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.”**

We should be getting into the Word of God to find out what God has to say? Rather than what men have to say? The Word of God is truth. The Scripture says in Numbers 23:19, **“God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?”** When it says that **“God is not a man, that he should lie...”** that means that some men are liars. Let us believe God, not men.

We should know the way that Satan works to deceive Christians. In Mark, Chapter Four, Jesus told us how that Satan comes to keep us from bearing fruit unto eternal life in heaven. In Mark 4:13, Jesus said, **“Know ye not this parable? and how then will ye know all parables?”** It is very important that Christians understand this parable.

In Mark 4:14-19, Jesus said, **“The sower soweth the word....And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts....And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness;...And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended....And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word,...And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.”**

First, **“Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts”** (Mark 4:15). Many Christians never get very far before Satan steals the Word from their heart. Secondly, some **“have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended”** (Mark 4:17). Thirdly, Satan uses **“the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful”** (Mark 4:19).

How many Christians today are willing to spend time with God in the Word and in praying in the Spirit that they will not be deceived by the Devil like those in Mark Chapter Four? Where is our heart? Who is our Master?

In Romans 6:16 it says, **“Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?”** Don't Christians know that if they serve the Devil he will become their master? Why not make a final decision and follow Jesus in everything He told us to do? Why give up a place in heaven for the things of this world?

The things of this world are only temporal. The things of heaven are eternal (2 Cor. 4:18). Which will you choose? Who will you serve? It is all up to you. God already did all He could to make it possible for you to serve Jesus Christ and reject anything that Satan has to offer. Say No to Satan (the Devil), and say Yes to Jesus!