

What Is God’s Purpose for the Earth?—Part 1

Based on chapter 3 of the book *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* available on jw.org.

OBJECTIVE: Explore what you believe and why, examine what the Bible teaches, and see how you can explain your beliefs to others.



DID GOD INTEND FOR THINGS TO BE THE WAY THEY ARE NOW?

1 EXPLORE YOUR BELIEFS

What do you think other people might say?

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What do *you* believe?

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Why do you believe that?

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2

EXAMINE WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES

The problems that we see today are not what God intended.

(See chapter 3 of the *Bible Teach* book, paragraph 1.)

Read Genesis 2:8, 9.

How do we know that God intended for humans to enjoy life on earth?

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Read Genesis 1:28 and 2:15.

How do those verses show that God purposed for humans to take care of the earth and the animals?

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If you encounter a roadblock while driving a car, you don't give up; you simply find another route. Likewise, God has not abandoned his purpose for the earth—he *will* accomplish it!

God *will* accomplish his purpose for the earth.

(See chapter 3 of the *Bible Teach* book, paragraphs 2, 3.)

Read Isaiah 55:11.

Even though things are presently not as God intended, why can we be sure that God's purpose for the earth has not changed?

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Read Psalm 37:29 and Revelation 21:3, 4.

What will life be like when God accomplishes his purpose for the earth?

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Which of God's promises for the future do you look forward to the most, and why?

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3

EXPLAIN YOUR BELIEFS

IF SOMEONE SAYS...

God created evil so that we would appreciate what is good.

YOU MIGHT REPLY...

A lot of people probably feel that way. But I believe differently because...
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What scripture could you share with the person?

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How would you explain that scripture in a way that addresses the person's concern?

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IF SOMEONE SAYS...

Things have always been bad, and they always will be.

YOU MIGHT REPLY...

It's true that things have been bad for a long time. But I believe that life will not always be like this because...
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What scripture could you share with the person?

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How would you explain that scripture in a way that addresses the person's concern?

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