

# **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS TO THE MEANING OF LIFE**

**By David Lee Burris**

## **Questions: George M. Cohan - Life is a funny proposition**

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**Did you ever sit and ponder,  
Sit and wonder, sit and think,  
Why we're here and what this life is all about?  
It's the weirdest thing they've tried to figure out.  
About a thousand different theories  
All the scientists can show,  
But never yet have proved a reason why  
With all we've thought  
And all we're taught,  
Why all we seem to know  
Is we're born and live a while and then we die.**

**Life's a very funny proposition after all,  
Imagination, jealousy, hypocrisy and all.  
Three meals a day, a whole lot to say;  
When you haven't got the coin you're always in the way.  
Everybody's fighting as we wend our way along,  
Every fellow claims the other fellow's in the wrong;  
Hurried & worried until we're buried & there's no curtain call.  
Life's a very funny proposition after all.**

**When all things are coming easy, and when luck is with a man,  
Why then life to him is sunshine everywhere;  
Then the fates blow rather breezy and they quite upset a plan,  
Then he'll cry that life's a burden hard to bear.**

**Though today may be a day of smiles, tomorrow's still in doubt,  
And what brings me joy, may bring you care and woe;  
We're born to die, but don't know why, or what it's all about,  
And the more we try to learn the less we know.**

**Life's a very funny proposition, you can bet,  
And no one's ever solved the problem properly as yet.  
Young for a day, then old and gray;  
Like the rose that buds and blooms and fades and falls away,  
Losing health to gain our wealth as through this dream we tour.  
Everything's a guess and nothing's absolutely sure;  
Battles exciting and fates we're fighting until the curtain falls.  
Life's a very funny proposition after all.**

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## **Answers: From Inspired Scripture - Old Testament & New**

The author of the [book of Ecclesiastes](#) looked for the meaning of life in many vain pursuits. He describes the feeling of emptiness he felt: “Meaningless! Meaningless! . . . Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless” ([Ecc. 1:2](#)). King Solomon, the writer of Ecclesiastes, had wealth beyond measure, wisdom beyond any man of his time or ours, he had hundreds of women, palaces and gardens that were the envy of kingdoms, the best food and wine, and every form of entertainment available. He said at one point that anything his heart wanted, he pursued ([Ecclesiastes 2:10](#)). And yet he summed up life “under the sun”—life lived as though all there is to life is what we can see with our eyes and experience with our senses—is meaningless. What explains this void? God created us for something beyond what we can experience in the here-and-now.

Solomon said of God, “He has also set eternity in the hearts of men” ([Ecclesiastes 3:11](#)). In our hearts we are aware that the “here-and-now” is not all that there is.

In the book of Genesis, we find a clue to the meaning of life in the fact that God created mankind in His image ([Genesis 1:26](#)). This means that we are more like God than we are like anything else. We also find that, before mankind fell and the curse of sin came upon the earth, the following things were true: 1) God made man a social creature ([Genesis 2:18–25](#)); 2) God gave man work ([Genesis 2:15](#)); 3) God had daily fellowship with man ([Genesis 3:8](#)); and 4) God gave man dominion over the earth ([Genesis 1:26](#)). These facts have significance related to the meaning of life. God intended mankind to have real fulfillment in life, but our condition (especially that touching our fellowship with God) was adversely affected by the fall into sin and the resulting curse upon the earth ([Genesis 3](#)).

The book of Revelation shows that God is concerned with restoring the meaning of life to us. God reveals that He will destroy this present creation and create a new heaven and a new earth. At that time, He will restore full fellowship with redeemed mankind, while the unredeemed will have been judged unworthy and cast into the lake of fire ([Revelation 20:11–15](#)). The curse of sin will be done away with; there will be no more sin, sorrow, sickness, death, or pain ([Revelation 21:4](#)). God will dwell with mankind, and they shall be His children ([Revelation 21:7](#)). Thus, we come full circle: God created us to have fellowship with Him; man sinned, thus breaking that fellowship; God restores that fellowship fully in the eternal state. If we were to go through life achieving everything we set out to achieve only to die separated from God for eternity would be worse than futile!

But God has made a way to not only make eternal bliss possible ([Luke 23:43](#)) but also life on earth satisfying and meaningful. How is this bliss now and forever obtained?

## **The meaning of life restored through Jesus Christ**

The real meaning of life, both now & in eternity, is found in the restoration of our spiritual relationship with God. This restoration is only possible by way of God's Son, Jesus Christ, who reconciles us to God ([Romans 5:10](#); [Acts 4:12](#); [John 1:12](#); [14:6](#)). Individual salvation and eternal life are only to be gained through belief followed by obedience. God wants us to know the meaning of life. Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" ([John 10:10](#)). A "full" life is logically one that is meaningful and devoid of aimless wandering. – *Got Questions?*

**Christianity offers the world real, objective meaning. The Creator of mankind has informed us that we exist on Earth for the purpose of choosing (by the grace of God) where we want to live eternally (Matt. 7:13-14). – *Apologetics Press***