**Why did God create us?**

One of the most important questions every human being should ask is: Why am I here? Or for what purpose did God create me? Mankind as intelligent beings should at least try to determine why God placed us on earth. Without knowing the purpose for our creation, we could be pursuing all sorts of useless endeavors, without any real value for our future. Yes, we need to make a living and provide for our families, but is that the only reason for our being? Do we merely exist? Or were we created for a special purpose?

From a scientific point of view, we are composed of physical matter, but is there more to man than what we are able to perceive with our senses? Why do we have intellect that drives us to accomplish more and more in this world? Science is poorly equipped to give us the answers to these important questions. Science is limited to what can be measured and observed, and cannot provide us with all we need to know about ourselves. But so is Philosophy totally inadequate to provide us with answers to these questions. In addition, to our problem of understanding ourselves correctly, there is also the spiritual deception spoken about in Revelation 12: 9, in this way: ***‘And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.’*** Mankind is subject to forces that cannot be seen. Even though we cannot see gravity, it effects and governs our actions as physical beings. In a similar way to what gravity effects and governs us, so do spiritual laws effect and govern our existence as human beings. Science cannot measure or observe qualities that cannot be seen such as love, hatred, vanity, inspiration of a writer, or the aspirations of a scientist. Although science are able to contribute knowledge to the mystery of mankind, only God can answer who and what we are, and what our ultimate purpose is here on earth.

To understand the reason for our existence we need to know how human life started on the earth. The theory of evolution cannot explain why we as human beings have higher spiritual yearnings. Man’s mind is far too complex to have arisen passively or by accident. The physical composition of the human eye is too complex to have come from an accident or explosion, such as the big bang theory. How could an explosion, which by definition is a destructive event, result in something as complex as our eyes. It is almost as logical as throwing an explosive devise into your garage filled with pieces of scrap metal, hoping that you will have a complete motor vehicle when you open the door after the explosion. However, due to our desensitized nature and lack of understanding of the workings of our bodies, it is impossible for us to realize how wonderfully we are made, unless we have *‘eyes to see and ears to hear’* as the prophet Isaiah wrote in Isaiah 6: 10, saying: ***“Render the hearts of this people insensitive, their ears dull, and their eyes dim, lest they see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and return and be healed.”***

In Genesis 1 we read how HASHEM created the heavens and the earth and populated it with living creatures. According to the account in Genesis 1 & 2 God created man in His own image and likeness. Here we are given the most fundamental difference between human beings and other created creatures. We are different from the other living creatures in that we have a relationship with God. Plants and animals were already created when God brought man into being. The transliterated Hebrew words for image is *‘tselem’* and for likeness is *‘demuth’.*  Verses 26 & 27 of Genesis 1 gives us understanding of the remarkable purpose God has for mankind; it shows that God created us with a mind and capability to communicate with and think like He does. We read from verse 27: ***‘And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.’***  Genesis 1: 26 & 27 tell us we are made in the image and likeness of God, and in Genesis 2: 7 we are told that we are made from the dust of the ground, as follows: ***‘Then HASHEM God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being*** (or soul per the KJV)***.’*** So even though we are made in the image of God, He created us from the dust of the ground. Nowhere in the Scriptures are we told that we possess an ‘*immortal soul’*, instead the Scriptures tell us plainly that the soul is something that can die or be destroyed, as witnessed in Ezekiel 18: 4, in this way: ***“Behold, all souls are Mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is Mine. The soul who sins will die.”*** We see further from verses 20 - 23 that: ***“The person who sins will die. The son will not bear the punishment for the father’s iniquity; nor will the father bear the punishment for the son’s iniquity, the righteousness of the righteous will be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked will be upon himself.*** (21) ***But if the wicked man turns from all his sins which he has committed and observes all My statutes and practices justice and righteousness, he shall surely live; he shall not die.*** (22) ***All his transgressions which he has committed will not be remembered against him; because of his righteousness which he has practiced, he will live.*** (23) ***Do I have any pleasure in the death of the wicked,” declares HASHEM God, “rather than that he should turn from his ways and live?”*** This tells us that we do righteousness by observing God’s statutes.

The problem is that those who have forgotten God’s Torah instructions do not even know that he/she is transgressing God’s teachings, since they have been deceived to believe that Torah has been set-aside by Y’shua. It was then for this reason that Y’shua came to reconcile especially those from the house of Israel who have forgotten the original covenant that HASHEM entered into with ancient Israel, in order to re-establish the kingdom of God over both houses of Israel. The Scriptures tell us clearly that the soul is something that can die or be destroyed, and that it is not immortal. Even though man does not possess an immortal soul, we understand from Zechariah 12: 1 that there is also a spirit of man in him, as follows: ***‘The burden of the word of HASHEM concerning Israel. Thus declares HASHEM who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him.’*** We are given the reason for mankind to have a spirit of man within him from Job 32: 8, in this way: ***“But it is a spirit in man, and the breath of the Almighty gives them understanding.”*** The spirit in man helps us understand the things of man in the physical realm, as also testified in the first part of first Corinthians 2: 11, as follows: ***‘For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man, which is in Him?’*** What happens with the spirit in man, when he dies? We read the answer from Ecclesiastes 12: 7, ***‘Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it.’***

However, the spirit in man is not conscious after he dies and is buried, as is clearly attested to in Ecclesiastes 9: 5, in this way: ***‘For the living know they will die; but the dead do not know anything, nor have they any longer a reward, for their memory is forgotten.’***  A number of verses in the Scriptures show that the state of death is compared to human sleep; one of which is recorded in John 11: 11 – 15, as follows: ***‘This He said, and after that He said to them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I go, that I may awaken him out of sleep.”*** (12) ***The disciples therefore said to Him, “Master, If he has fallen asleep, he will recover.”*** (13) ***Now Y’shua had spoken of his death, but they thought that He was speaking of literal sleep.*** (14) ***Then Y’shua therefore said to them plainly, “Lazarus is dead,*** (15) ***and I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, so that you may believe; but let us go to him.”’***  The dead will be awakened by Y’shua our Messiah at the time of their resurrection, as Rav Shaul explained in first Corinthians 15: 20 - 24, in this way: ***‘But now Messiah has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep.*** (21) ***for since by a man came death, by a man also comes the resurrection of the dead.*** (22) ***For in Adam all die, so also in Messiah all shall be made alive.*** (23) ***But each in his own order: Messiah the first fruits, after that those who are Messiah’s at His coming,*** (24) ***then comes the end*** (ones), ***when He delivers up the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power.’***

Since HASHEM our God is immortal and cannot die, He send His visible image or the word of God, who appeared to Abraham and others in the Tanach to become flesh in Miriam a young Jewish virgin to become the Son of Man, in order that He may:

* Save the first-fruits who qualify during the first resurrection from the second death (as per Revelation 20: 4 – 6), as their Passover lamb, as much as the first Passover was to save the first-born children of the ancient Israelites from death;
* Redeem the property that the lost ten tribes lost because of idolatry back, so that they may inherit their portion of the Promised Land as promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (as per Galatians 3: 26 – 4: 1 – 28);
* Remarry His bride, whom He divorced because of her idolatry (as per Romans 7: 1 – 4); and
* Die for the sins of all mankind, since His life as the Creator was worth more than the lives of all mankind together, provided the knees of those called at this time bow before Him during this age; our Jewish Brother bow before Him at His return (as per Zechariah 12: 10); those alive during His millennium rule bow before Him during His 1000-year reign; and those resurrected during the second resurrection bow before him during the 100 year period of the Great White Throne Judgment, when He will open the minds of the unsaved multitude who died without ever hearing the truth about God’s plan of salvation (as per Revelation 20: 13 and Isaiah 25: 7 – 9). They will then get their first chance of salvation when He opens the books of the Scriptures to their understanding. Those who reject Messiah as their savior after learning the truth will simply be burnt to ashes (as per Malachi 4: 1).

This is also confirmed in John 1: 1 – 3 & 14, as follows: ***‘In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*** (2) ***He was in the beginning with God.*** (3) ***All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.*** (14) ***And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.’*** Y’shua came to reconcile the lost sheep of the house of Israel back to the Father and Brother Judah, who remained Torah observant, whilst the house of Israel were scattered into the world because of idolatry.

Y’shua came as God’s perfect example to show us how we should serve Him. We need to conform to the image of God’s Son if we want to make it into His everlasting Kingdom, as witnessed in Romans 8: 28 & 29, in this way: ***‘And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.*** (29) ***For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born*** (from the dead as per Colossians 1: 18) ***among many brethren.’*** Y’shua showed us how we also may be born again as Spiritual sons of God, when we are resurrected one day, as He also became the Son of God, after His resurrection, as recorded in Romans 1: 1 - 4, as follows: ***‘Shaul, a bond-servant of Messiah Y’shua, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,*** (2) ***which He promised before-hand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures,*** (3) ***concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh,*** (4)***who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the spirit of holiness, Y’shua Messiah our Master.’*** We were originally created in the image of God and looks like Y’shua the visible image of the invisible God, as witnessed in Colossians 1: 13 – 15, in this way: ***‘For he delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,*** (14) ***in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*** (15) ***And He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born*** (from the dead) ***of all creation.’*** Even though we still look like the image of God, our character was greatly marred after sin entered our world. Y’shua the visible image of the invisible God, confirmed what is written in Colossians 1 when His disciple Philip asked Him to show them (the disciples) the Father in John 14: 9, saying: ***“Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how do you say, ‘Show us the Father?’”***

We human beings have clearly let ourselves down. We have failed to understand God’s purpose for us and have not lived up to our marvelous human potential. Sin marred the image of God in all people. But the restoration and renewal of the spiritual likeness (or character) of God take place through Y’shua Messiah, in whose image we are destined to finally and fully conform at the resurrection of the just. Our fleshly bodies will then become glorious spiritual bodies as witnessed in first Corinthians 15: 50 – 53, as follows: ***‘Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.*** (51) ***Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,*** (52) ***in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.*** (53) ***For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.’*** We read further about this in first John 3: 2 & 3, in this way: ***‘Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is.*** (3) ***And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.’*** Obviously, a major part of our goal in life is to attain God’s character, as explained in Ephesians 4: 23 & 24, as follows: ***‘And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind,*** (24) ***and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.’***

It is the new man who is spiritually in the image of God. But we can only accomplish this transformation through the living presence of Y’shua in our lives. Rav Shaul who was an apostle to the Gentiles, or more correctly to the lost ten tribes who came to believe that they are Gentiles, wrote accordingly in Galatians 2: 20, saying: ***“I have been crucified with Messiah; and it is no longer I who live, but Messiah lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.”*** Our destiny is everlasting life as sons and daughters in the Kingdom of God. That is the main reason for us to be created in the image of God. The reward of the righteous will be great and abundant, but what will happen to those who refuse to repent and return to God and His way of life.

What will happen to those who even after learning the truth of HASHEM, willfully or continually reject God’s gracious offer of eternal life and deliberately choose Satan’s way? HASHEM will not give such people eternal life in His kingdom, where they could continue to harm their neighbors. Some people see HASHEM our God as a cruel monster that enjoys punishing failed human beings in a hellfire for eternity. Yet, if you truly get to know HASHEM as the loving Father that He is by studying His word, you will get to know His true purpose for all mankind, and that that is not the punishment awaiting the wicked. We read about God’s loving way, even for the wicked in Luke 6: 35, in this way: ***“But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men.”*** God will reward those who love and obey Him during the first resurrection as Y’shua taught in Luke 14: 13 – 14, saying: ***“But when you give a reception*** (the Feast of Tabernacles)***, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind,*** (14) ***and you will be blessed, since they do not have the means to repay you; for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”*** Even so, God is also an God of justice in that He will punish those who willfully refuse to repent of their wickedness, as witnessed in Matthew 25: 41 & 46, as follows: ***“Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which is prepared for the devil and his angels.*** (46) ***And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”*** The wicked in the second resurrection will suffer everlasting punishment in the sense that they are forever cut off from God and life, but He will not inflict them with eternal torment. Do not forget that the wages of sin is death – it is not eternal punishment, since once the eternal fire consumed their physical bodies, they will be ashes – that will leave neither root nor branch (as per Malachi 4: 1). In addition we know that death means the absence of life, not eternal life in an ever-burning hellfire.

The book of Revelation prophecy of two evil human beings, both of whom will attain great positions of power and authority, being cast into the lake of fire in Revelation 19: 20, as follows: ***‘And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone.’*** We all know what happens to physical matter including human beings who are thrown alive into a massive fire - they are completely consumed, until only ashes remain. We see from the Scriptures that a consuming fire is the fate of those who finally refuse to repent of their wickedness. We read from Jude 7: ***‘Just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, are exhibited as an example, in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.’***  Although they are described as suffering the punishment of eternal fire, the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah are not still burning. In fact, we see that on the contrary, they are promised an opportunity to yet obtain eternal life in the resurrection to judgment described in Revelation 20, as we read in Matthew 11: 23 & 24, in this way: ***“And you Capernaum, will not be exalted to heaven, will you? You shall descend to Hades; for if the miracles had occurred in Sodom which occurred in you, it would have remained to this day.*** (24) ***Nevertheless I say to you that is shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you.”*** HASHEM is merciful and does not take pleasure in the death of the wicked and often delays judgment in the hope that they will repent, as Rav Kepha also wrote in second Peter 3: 9, saying: ***‘HASHEM is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.’*** Rav Shaul gives us a second witness regarding God’s mercy in first Timothy 2: 3 & 4, saying: ***‘This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,*** (4) ***who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.’***

But where will God’s family dwell eternally? What will those who qualify to be in it do? Is there any indication in the Scriptures that they will be playing harps in heaven for all eternity? We read Y’shua’s own words regarding the reward of the righteous in John 14: 2 & 3, as follows: ***“In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.*** (3) ***And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.”*** Where will Messiah be during the millennium? We read the answer from Revelation 20: 4 – 6, in this way: ***‘And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of the testimony of Y’shua, and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark upon their forehead and upon their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Messiah for a thousand years.*** (5) ***The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection.*** (6) ***Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Messiah and will reign with Him for a thousand years.’***  Where will those who are in the first resurrection reign with Messiah? We read the answer in Revelation 5: 10, as follows: ***“And Thou hast made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth.”*** The word ‘mansions’ as used in the King James Version in John 14: 2, is slightly misleading in this context, since other translations render the Greek word used here as ‘rooms’ or ‘dwelling places’. The English word ‘room’ often meant an office of authority in bygone years. An example being in first Kings 19: 16(KJV), as follows: ***‘And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room*** (or place)***.’*** The word ‘room’ for position or place is also used in first Kings 2: 35; 5: 5; 8: 20 and 2 Chronicles 26: 1 in the King James Version. Those who are resurrected first ‘***will reign with Him*** (Messiah) ***for a thousand years.’*** They will be in office as a kingdom of priests during the millennium. This is similar to the Temple (the Father’s house) in King Solomon’s time, where the priests and Levites resided in ‘rooms’ which formed part of the Temple.

The righteous saints will assist Messiah in ruling over the nations during His millennial rule. We see further from Luke 22: 28 - 30 that the 12 Apostles will rule over the descendants of the 12 tribes of Israel, in this way: ***“And you are those who have stood by Me in My trials;*** (29) ***and just as My Father has granted me a kingdom, I grant you*** (30) ***that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”*** We see further from Ezekiel 37: 22 – 25 that HASHEM promised King David, he will again rule over the united nation of Israel at that time, as follows: ***‘And I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king will be king for all of them; and they will no longer be two nations, and they will no longer be divided into two kingdoms.*** (23) ***And they will no longer defile themselves with their idols, or with their detestable things, or with any of their transgressions; but I will deliver them from all their dwelling places in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them. And they will be My people and I will be their God.*** (24) ***And My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd; and they will walk in My ordinances, and keep My statutes, and observe them.*** (25) ***And they shall live on the land that I gave to Jacob My servant, in which your fathers lived; and they will live on it, they, and their sons, and their sons’ sons, forever, and David My servant shall be their prince forever.’*** Rav Shaul wrote about some of our duties during the millennium in first Corinthians 6: 2 & 3, saying: ***‘Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is judged by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts?*** (3) ***Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, matters of this life?’*** Y’shua told Yochanan the same thing in Revelation 2: 26, saying: ***‘And he who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS.’***

The apostolic writings in the Renewed Covenant clearly show that the resurrected saints will be ruling in the world, when Messiah returns one day in the foreseeable future. But, over the past 2000 years, an apostasy grew until today where relatively few people understand and believe this major scriptural teaching. People came to believe that the good will simply go to heaven at death, and the wicked will be burnt in hell for all eternity. But that is as we’ve seen not the reward of the saved. God’s ultimate purpose for mankind is linked to the question that King David posed in Psalm 8: 3 - 6, saying: ***‘When I consider Thy heavens, the work of Thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which Thou hast ordained;*** (4) w***hat is man, that Thou dost take thought of him? And the son of man, that Thou dost care for him?*** (5) ***Yet Thou hast made him a little lower than God, and dost crown him with glory and majesty!*** (6) ***Thou dost make him to rule over the works of Thy hands; Thou hast put all things under his feet.’*** King David was overwhelmed by God’s awesome majesty and purpose for mankind, and expressed his thankfulness in praise to His Creator. Rav Shaul in discussion what King David wrote in Psalm 8, provides more details on the subject in Hebrew 2: 6 – 11, saying: ***‘But one has testified somewhere saying, “WHAT IS MAN, THAT THOU REMEMBEREST HIM? OR THE SON OF MAN, THAT THOU ART CONCERNED ABOUT HIM?*** (7) ***THOU HAST MADE HIM FOR A LITTLE WHILE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS; THOU HAST CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOR, AND HAST APPOINTED HIM OVER THE WORKS OF THY HANDS;*** (8) ***THOU HAST PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET.” For in subjecting all things to him*** (meaning man)***, He left nothing that is not subject to him. But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him.*** (9) ***But we do see Him*** ***who has been made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, Y’shua, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.***  (10) ***For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.*** (11) ***For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one Father; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren.’***

In the book of Genesis, God gave mankind dominion over His earthly creation, a responsibility which mankind has only partially fulfilled, as the chaotic condition of our world shows. However, the actual fulfilment of this passage will only occur when Messiah comes to reign on the earth. We will at that time rule with Messiah in the Kingdom of God on earth, for eternity. Verse 10 of Hebrews 2 mentions Messiah’s suffering for us, but He is not the only one who will have to suffer. Although our suffering do not in any way compare with His, we need to walk the same path that He walked as Rav Shaul wrote in the first part of 2 Timothy 2: 12, saying ***‘If we endure, we shall also reign with Him.”*** Rav Kepha wrote how Messiah set us an example to suffer without complaining in first Peter 2: 21, saying: ***‘For you have been called for this purpose, since Messiah also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps.’***  Rav Kepha wrote that it is partially through our suffering that HASHEM is creating in us His divine nature and righteous character in 2 Peter 1: 1 - 4, saying: ***‘Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Y’shua Messiah, to those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Y’shua Messiah:*** (2) ***Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Y’shua our Master;*** (3) ***seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.*** (4) ***For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.’***

Those who conform to the image of the Son of God by the time He returns will be spirit beings similar to Messiah, but they will also share in the very divine nature of God. At immersion God gives us a portion of His Set-apart Spirit which will if we remain faithful to the end, by growing in grace and knowledge of our Master and savior (as per 2 Peter 3: 18), will be raised as His spiritual children just as Messiah was resurrected, as witnessed in Romans 8: 11, in this way: ***‘But if the Spirit of Him who raised Y’shua from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Messiah Y’shua from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.’***  Rav Shaul concludes by telling us in summary in Romans 8: 16 & 17 what we dealt with in this sermon, saying: ***‘The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,*** (17) ***and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Messiah, if indeed we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him.’***

Salvation in God’s Kingdom is the ultimate purpose of the lives of mankind. It makes the good times and suffering we experience on earth really worth our while. It is absolutely fantastic to realize that God created us to become His children, to ultimately rule the universe under Him? Halleluyah!