

Why?

*“² And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.³ And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, **why** the bush is not burnt.” - Exodus 3:2-3.*

What motivated Moses into action was his desire to know “*why?*” There was a question that needed to be answered and he was prepared to act and find the solution. Thus the reason why he turned aside from his daily routine of being a shepherd was more than just to quell his curiosity. He was now purpose-driven! His goal at that specific time was to find the answer to a burning question. It was no longer about him being a good shepherd.

Exalting ‘self’ should never be the motivating factor behind one’s pursuit of purpose. In his bid to solve a mystery, Moses was willing to sacrifice ‘self’ - being a good shepherd. He intended to turn aside from that trodden and familiar path, and to step up to a new journey into the unknown.

One of the challenges in life is in finding the ‘higher ground’ between pursuing selfish ambitions and providing Christ-like service to others. The beneficiaries to our actions are never me, I and myself, but are always others, especially the poor, lost and vulnerable. God sets the standard in John 3;16, by His sacrificial giving of Jesus for the greater good, that is, to save mankind from eternal damnation:

“ 16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” - John 3:16

Each one of us is born to fulfil a specific purpose or calling in life. The key is to figure out what that purpose or call is, and to pursue it with passion. Here are a few Biblical examples which support this fact:

1. The Call Upon Jeremiah’s Life

⁵“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I set you apart and appointed you a prophet to the nations.” - Jeremiah 1:5

2. The Call Upon the Life of John The Baptist

22 Finally they said, “Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?”

23 John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, “I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way for the Lord.’ ” - John 1:22-23.

3. The Call Upon Jesus’ Life

“ 16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” - John 3:16

Even the prophet Isaiah foretold Christ’s birth:

*“² The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned. ” - Isaiah 9:2 (NIV)*

An angel of the Lord gave Joseph this revelation in a dream:

“²¹She will give birth to a Son, and you shall give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.” - Matthew 1:21

In all of the above examples, there were people and nations waiting for the purposes to be fulfilled in the lives to Jeremiah, John and Jesus. The same applies to you and to me. There are people who are waiting on us to step up and to fulfil our divine mandates, so that their lives can be blessed, all to the honour and glory of God.

Imagine, for a brief second, what would have happened if Jeremiah, John and Jesus had failed to fulfill their divine destinies. Without prophet Jeremiah, a nation would not have been able to receive divine instructions at that time. Without John the Baptist, the people would have continued in their sins for that period, and would not have heard the message of repentance. Without Jesus, mankind would not have received the gift of salvation, and all of us would have been hell-bound.

But note that God's will will always prevail. In other words, if a person does not rise to his expected end of discovering and pursuing purpose, God will use someone or something else to bring it to pass, in order to accomplish His will here on earth:

As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.” - Luke 19:37-40

Therefore, let us not be silent in our quest to discover purpose. Keep asking as Moses asked, “Why?” **Why was I born?** Once you know the answer, then it is your responsibility to pursue purpose to its fullest until nations and people are blessed, all to the honour and glory of God. Be blessed.

Key Principles:

- 1. Each of us is born to do something special for God on this earth.***
- 2. Search for an answer to the question “Why was I born?”***
- 3. There are people and nations waiting on us to fulfill purpose, all to the honour and glory of God.***
- 4. If we fail to pursue our divine purpose, God will use someone or something else to accomplish His will on earth.***
- 5. Find the higher ground between pursuing selfish ambitions and providing Christ-like service to others.***

Heavenly Father,

Thank You Lord for wisdom, knowledge and understanding. I believe that You created me to accomplish something special during my life-time. Help me to understand clearly what I was born to do, so that others can be blessed, and Your holy name can be glorified. Help me to step up to ‘higher grounds’ and to provide Christ-like service to others as I pursue purpose. Give me the wisdom to know when I am pursuing selfish ambitions and the grace, strength and faith needed to turn aside from that path. Help

me not to become so busy with the cares and distractions of life that I miss my 'burning bush' appointment. I rebuke every spirit of pride, stubbornness and covetousness. Grant unto me a spirit of humility, love and Christ-like service to others. In Jesus' name I pray with thanksgiving. Amen.

Memory Verse:

“²¹She will give birth to a Son, and you shall give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.” - Matthew 1:21

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