



HOUSE to HOUSE  
HEART to HEART

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# House to House Heart to Heart

VOLUME 20 NUMBER 5



## Where do we go When we die?

*Allen Webster*

All cultures have shown interest in life after death. Egyptians designed pyramids for their dead. Chinese built huge emperor tombs. Vikings dressed fallen warriors and released them to the wind in burning ships. Crusaders in the Middle Ages believed they gained a more favorable afterlife if they died in battle, as did the Japanese kamikazes later. American Indians buried weapons and tools with their dead, for use in the Happy Hunting Ground.

Men also feared death. King Louis XV forbade servants to mention death in his presence. A Chinese superstition held that mentioning death invites it. People now tend to ignore death or try to postpone it as long as possible. Woody Allen quipped: "It's not that I am afraid to die. I just don't want to be there when it happens."

Yet nothing in life is as certain. George Bernard Shaw observed that "the statistics about death are very impressive—one out of one dies." The Bible says, "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). The undertaker who signed his correspondence, "Eventually yours" was right.

What does the Bible say about man's journey to eternity?

### **Conception: God Unites; Man Begins.**

We cannot know what happens to a man when he dies unless we know what man is when he begins. Genesis one shows that humans differ from all other created beings. Man is a triune being. He has a body, soul (life), and spirit (1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 4:12). Animals have a body and life, but no eternal spirit. As John Piper noted, "What separates man from whales and dolphins and chimpanzees is not mutations and chemicals, but personhood in the image of God."

Each of Adam's descendants has two dimensions: one spiritual and one physical. God made Adam's body from dust, but that did not make him human. That happened when God fused him with His likeness and breathed into him his soul (Genesis 2:7; cf. 1:26-27; Matthew 10:28).

Since God is the Father of all spirits (Hebrews 12:9), life begins for each of us when God unites a soul with a body at conception (Psalm 139:14-16). The body is that part sustained by food, air, and water—the part that can cease, perish, and die (biblestudy.org). It is a tent the soul lives in for seventy or eighty years (2 Corinthians 5:1; cf. Psalm 90:10)—a temple for the Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19).



*“Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”*

*1 Thessalonians 4:17*

The soul is the part that makes a man like God and returns to God at death (Genesis 35:18; Luke 23:46). The soul has a helium quality to it—it ascends when released. It has a homing quality to it—it returns to its Master.

Jesus said if we believe in Him, we will not die (John 11:26). That is a remarkable thought, but what does it mean? Christians end up in cemeteries like atheists, Buddhists, and Jews. Let’s explore the next stage of man’s existence.

#### **Death: Man Separates; God Sorts.**

*Man separates.* From an evolutionary worldview, death is the end. Humans simply go out of existence. They feel nothing, know nothing, are nothing. Human death is not extinction, though.

From a biblical worldview, death is simply a transition from this seen world to an unseen one. The definition of *death* is “the body without the spirit” (James 2:26). At death the soul separates from the body; then “the dust”—body—returns “to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it” (Ecclesiastes 12:7). The biological part dies; the spiritual part continues.

*God sorts.* At the moment of death, God sorts people into two groups—the saved and the lost. The account of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19–31) shows that after death:

- The dead are still alive. Both Lazarus and the rich man survived their funerals (section adapted from <http://bivocational.org/BIVO/SermonAchives/LowellJohnson/>).
- Earthly status and conditions no longer matter. The rich man was no longer rich; Lazarus was no longer sick. The rich man is now the beggar; Lazarus is now rich.

- The dead no longer have a body. The rich man was buried. In the intermediate state man is said to be “naked”—his soul is without a “house” (2 Corinthians 5:1–8).
- The dead are conscious. When the rich man opened his eyes, perhaps he wondered where he was, but he surely knew *that* he was. He could see, perceive, hear, feel, recognize, remember, speak, and reflect. Abraham conversed with him. The Bible never uses “sleep” of the soul; only of the body (cf. John 11:11).
- The dead retain their identities, personalities, and characters. Lazarus was still “Lazarus,” and the rich man still saw himself as superior to him (“send Lazarus”). He recognized both Abraham and Lazarus (16:23–24). Some hope death will change them into something they are not. They think they can live like the rich man and get Lazarus’ reward—die in sin, but awake a saint. Death does not alter the spiritual state, only Christ’s blood can (Revelation 1:5; Acts 22:16; Ephesians 1:7). Sin separates us from God and brings spiritual death (Isaiah 59:2; Romans 6:23) and only following Jesus can make us alive so we can go to heaven (John 14:6; Acts 4:12).
- One knows if he is saved or lost immediately after death. Judgment Day will pass final sentence, and reveal why one is saved or lost (2 Corinthians 5:10; Ecclesiastes 12:13–14).
- The righteous dead join the saints that preceded them. Lazarus was with Abraham. We will immediately be with our Christian kin and friends after death (cf. Revelation 6:9–11).
- The afterlife contains two sections: one of comfort and the other of torment. “Abraham’s bosom” (or

“paradise,” Luke 23:43) is filled with joy and comfort. Torment is a state of personal suffering (16:24–25). The rich man was in a fire. He was thirsty. He begged for help.

- Destiny is forever set (16:22–31). The gulf was “fixed.” The rich man could not get out, and Lazarus could not help him. Death marks a final separation of saved and lost people. Nothing changes once eternity has begun.

#### **Resurrection: Man Reunites; God Judges.**

*Man reunites.* Death is as necessary for man’s progress as hatching is for a chick or leaving a cocoon is for a butterfly. To live in an eternal realm, we need a spiritual body (1 Corinthians 15:50).

Although our bodies eventually return to dust (Genesis 3:19), they are not forever lost. The doctrine of bodily resurrection is a hallmark of Christianity. God dedicates an entire chapter to it (1 Corinthians 15; cf. Acts 4:1–2), saying, “As in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive” (15:22).

On the world’s last day, every grave will be emptied and the sea will give up its dead (John 5:28–29; Revelation 20:13). Those alive at Jesus’ return will be “changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible” (1 Corinthians 15:51–52). Our resurrected bodies will be immortal—they will never decay, suffer injury, grow old, get sick, or die (1 Corinthians 15:42–55). The body of our humiliation will be made like Christ’s glorious body (Philippians 3:20–21).

Jesus will bring our immortal spirits back with Him to enter those resurrected bodies (1 Thessalonians 3:13; 4:13–17).

*God judges.* John pictures the judgment scene: “I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works . . . And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:12–15; cf. Matthew 25:31–33).

At the Judgment, God's grace will reward Christians for good deeds (Matthew 10:41–42; 16:27) and God's justice will punish unbelievers for sin (Galatians 5:21; 1 Corinthians 6:9–10). Paul explained, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad" (2 Corinthians 5:10).

### Eternity: God Reigns; Man Lives.

*God reigns.* Eternity could be summed up with these words: "The Lord God omnipotent reigneth" (Revelation 19:6).

*Man lives.* There are only two destinations in eternity: heaven and hell. There are three things associated with the "resurrection of damnation" (John 5:29):

- Fire. In depth, it is a baptism; in confinement, a furnace; in duration, unquenchable; in size, a lake (Matthew 3:11–12; 13:42; Mark 9:43–48; Revelation 20:14).
- Pain. *Gehenna* is a place where the worm does not die, a prison with no rest, a fire that never burns out, and a region of darkness and gloom with continual weeping and gnashing of teeth (Matthew 8:12; Mark 9:43–48; Revelation 14:11).
- Shame. The wicked will awake to "shame and everlasting contempt" (Daniel 12:2).

We naturally shrink from such thoughts. Thankfully, we have the awesome privilege of determining where we will go in eternity (Philippians 2:12). What happens to the soul when we die depends on what happened to it before we died. If we are washed by Jesus' blood, we need not fear death (Revelation 1:5; 7:14; Acts 22:16; Hebrews 2:14–15). But we must die "in the Lord" to be blessed upon death (Revelation 14:12–13). To die in the Lord, we must get into and stay in the Lord. Paul wrote, "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Galatians 3:26–27). God does not arbitrarily fix our destination; all "good people" do not necessarily go to heaven; American citizenship is not synonymous with heavenly citizen-

ship. We do not accidentally wake up in heaven without preparing to go there. Decisions determine destiny.

Heaven will bring complete physical and emotional healing (Revelation 21:4). Our resurrection bodies will be freed from disability, infirmity, and disease. Our emotional scars will be removed, and we will be free from all neuroses, complexes, and symptoms of depression. We go home with the Lord to enjoy, praise, serve, rejoice, sing, and celebrate forever (1 Thessalonians 4:17). The Bible describes going to heaven as:

- Being carried away by angels to bliss (Luke 16:22).
- Going to paradise (Luke 23:43).
- Going to sleep to wake in a better place (John 11:11–14).
- Moving from tent to mansion (2 Corinthians 5:1; John 14:2).
- Gaining something better than living (Philippians 1:21, 23).
- Leaving darkness for a well-lit room (Revelation 22:5).
- Coming home to see family and friends (Genesis 25:8).
- Being set free from prison (2 Corinthians 5:2–4).
- Taking a long journey to a new land (Matthew 7:13).
- Riding a chariot to New Jerusalem (Revelation 3:12).
- Moving into a fancy community (Ecclesiastes 12:5).
- Opening a gate to a brand-new world (Hebrews 11:14–16).
- Departing to a better country (Hebrews 11:14).
- A homecoming with Christ (Philippians 1:21–24; 2 Corinthians 5:6–8).
- Awakening from sleeping to live with Jesus (1 Thessalonians 4:13–14; 5:9–11).
- Resting from our labors (Revelation 14:13). (Some of these found at [biblestudytools.com/bible-study/topical-studies/](http://biblestudytools.com/bible-study/topical-studies/)).

It is little wonder the Bible says, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints" (Psalm 116:15). God receives His children as a father encloses a child in his arms (Acts 7:54–60). Imagine!

God is still taking reservations. Come, go home with us.

## God's Infinite Things

**Riches that are unsearchable**  
(Ephesians 3:8).

**Joy that is unspeakable**  
(1 Peter 1:8).

**Peace that passes understanding**  
(Philippians 4:7).

**Love that passes knowledge**  
(Ephesians 3:19).

**Ways past finding out**  
(Romans 11:33).

—Mark Posey, Decatur, Alabama



## Where's the Corpse?

Bernard Ram wrote, "A thousand times over the centuries the death knell of the Bible has been sounded, the funeral procession formed, the flowers ordered, the inscription placed on the tombstone, and the eulogy written, but somehow the corpse never stays put."

## God's Plan for Saving Man

- God's Grace**, Ephesians 2:8
- Christ's Blood**, Romans 5:9
- The Holy Spirit's Gospel**, Romans 1:16
- Sinner's Faith**, Acts 16:31
- Sinner's Repentance**, Luke 13:3
- Sinner's Confession**, Romans 10:10
- Sinner's Baptism**, 1 Peter 3:21
- Christian's Work**, James 2:24
- Christian's Hope**, Romans 8:24
- Christian's Endurance**, Revelation 2:10





## Marital Blessings

Blessed are the husband and wife who continue to be affectionate, considerate, and loving after the wedding bells have ceased ringing (Ephesians 5:23–25).

Blessed are the husband and wife who are as polite and courteous to one another as they are to their friends (Romans 12:10).

Blessed are they who have a sense of humor, for this attribute will be a handy shock absorber (Proverbs 17:22).

Blessed are the married couples who abstain from alcoholic beverages which wreck far more homes than recognized (Proverbs 20:1).

Blessed are they who love their mates more than any other person in the world, and who joyfully fulfill their marriage vow of a lifetime of fidelity (Ecclesiastes 9:9).

Blessed are those mates who never speak loudly to each other and who make their home a place “where seldom is heard a discouraging word” (1 Peter 3:1, 7).

Blessed are they who attain parenthood, for children are a heritage of the Lord (Psalm 127:1–5).

Blessed are they who remember to thank God for their food before they partake of it, and who set aside some time each day for the reading of the Bible and prayer (1 Timothy 4:3; 2 Timothy 2:15).

Blessed are the husband and wife who faithfully attend the worship services of the church (Hebrews 10:25).

Blessed are the husband and wife who can work out their problems of adjustment without interference from relatives (Genesis 2:22–24).

Blessed is the couple who do not overspend (Proverbs 21:20).

Blessed are the husband and wife who humbly dedicate their lives and home to Christ and practice His teachings by being unselfish, loyal, and loving (Colossians 1:18).

—The Christian Builder, May 24, 1985



### The Plastic Years

They pass so quickly, the days of youth,  
And the children change so fast  
And soon they harden in the mold,  
And the plastic years are past.

Then shape their lives while they are young.

This be our prayer, our aim,  
That every child we meet shall bear  
The imprint of His name.

—Martha Snell Nicholson

For more material on the home and family, fathers and mothers, husbands and wives, grandparents, and family finances, go to [www.housetohouse.com](http://www.housetohouse.com).

### Control Versus Influence

“We don’t control our children’s destiny; we only influence it.”

Many parents operate under the mistaken notion that *control* and *influence* are the same word. Control means we have 100 percent of the power over outcome. Influence means we have somewhere between 1 and 99 percent of the power over outcome.

In reality, we can never be 100 percent responsible for the choices our children make. We can only be 100 percent responsible for what we do to try to influence them.

A very heavy hand, in the long run, can lead to lip-service obedience, passive resistance, or even outright defiance. Our challenge is to continually look for ways to positively influence our children.

One of the greatest tasks of parents is to develop a relationship with their children that motivates and inspires responsible behavior and promotes openness and trust.

Many parents focus too much on dealing with surface behaviors and fail to connect on a deeper level. Behavior is often the end result of a series of events involving one’s thoughts, feelings, beliefs, and perceptions.

To influence our children, they need to sense that it is “safe” to open up and let us “in.”

*“The Lord shall increase you more and more, you and your children”*

PSALM 115:14

# TIMELINE OF THE SILENT YEARS

The period from the end of the ministry of Malachi (c. 420 BC) to the birth of Jesus is considered the "Intertestamental Period." No new prophecy came to Israel during this time. It was a turbulent period, and the world that closes at the end of the Old Testament is quite different from the one that opens in the New Testament. This timeline shows some of the major events affecting Israel.

## MEDO-PERSIAN PERIOD 450 BC

Nehemiah governs Judah, 444–432 BC  
Malachi closes out the Old Testament, c. 430 BC

## HELLENISTIC PERIOD

Alexander the Great defeats the Persians at the battle of Arbela, 331 BC  
Alexander the Great dies, ending the Hellenistic Period, 323 BC

## PTOLEMAIC AND SELEUCID PERIOD

Ptolemy takes control of Palestine, Egypt, Phoenicia, and Southern Syria, 300 BC  
Seleucus I takes control of Syria, 311 BC  
Seleucid leader Antiochus III defeats Ptolemy V to take control of Palestine, 198 BC  
Antiochus III defeated by Rome in Magnesia, 190 BC

<sup>1</sup> Many are surprised to learn that Jesus was born between 6–5 BC. Our system of dating was established by Dionysius Exiguus, and he incorrectly guessed as to the year of Jesus' birth. Careful historical study shows that Herod died in 4 BC, and Jesus was certainly born one or two years before that.

## JEWISH INDEPENDENCE (MACCABEAN PERIOD) 170 BC

Mattathias Hasmon starts Jewish revolt when Antiochus IV tries to enforce pagan worship. At his death, his oldest son, Judas, takes over. His popularity and victories win him the nickname "Maccabeus," which translates as "The Hammer." 167 BC  
Maccabeus recaptures the Temple in Jerusalem and cleanses it of all pagan artifacts, 164 BC  
Maccabeus dies in battle and his brother Jonathan takes over, 160 BC  
Jonathan is captured and put to death. His brother Simon takes over, 143 BC  
Simon succeeds in restoring religious freedom to the Jews in Palestine, 142 BC  
Simon dies and his descendants take over. Their views are more Hellenistic than their forefathers. These leaders become known for their own personal lust for power. 134 BC

## ROMAN RULE 70 BC

The Roman General, Pompey, invades and defeats the Hasmonian leaders and converts Judea into a Roman province, 63 BC  
Pompey dies, 48 BC  
Julius Caesar is appointed dictator for 10 years, 46 BC  
Julius Caesar is appointed dictator for life (February) and is assassinated one month later, sparking a civil war, 44 BC  
Herod the Great is established as ruler of Judea, 40–36 BC  
Octavian (Augustus Caesar) defeats Antony at the Battle of Actium and rises to Emperor of the Roman Empire, 31 BC  
Herod rebuilds the Temple. Work on outbuildings continues for another eighty years. 20–19 BC  
Herod inaugurates Caesarea Maritima, 9 BC  
Jesus is born in Bethlehem, 6–5 BC<sup>1</sup>  
Herod executes his own son, fearing he is trying to seize power. Then Herod dies, leaving his kingdom to be divided among his heirs. His son Archelaus rises to power over Judea, 4 BC

Sources: Tyndale Handbook of Bible Charts and Maps, Rose Book of Bible & Christian History, Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps & Charts, The Oxford Companion to the Bible.

# Bible QUIZ

VOLUME 20:5



Send us your answers (address on front) to receive a FREE Bible bookmark. We'll grade and return your questions and enclose the bookmark "Historically Correct" as a way of saying thanks for spending time in the Word (quantities may be limited).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Questions Taken from the King James Version

**Answers to Last Issue:** *The Crucifixion of Jesus:* 1. Passover (Luke 22:1); 2. A donkey (ass) (Matthew 21:1–7); 3. Golgotha (Matthew 27:33); 4. Peter (John 18:10); 5. Malchus (John 18:10); 6. Three (Luke 22:54–60); 7. 30 (Matthew 26:15); 8. A kiss (Matthew 26:47–49); 9. Hanged himself (Matthew 27:3–5); 10. Bought potter's field to bury strangers (Matthew 27:6–8); 11. Barabbas (Matthew 27:15–26); 12. Simon of Cyrene (Matthew 27:32); 13. Alexander, Rufus (Mark 15:21); 14. Vinegar mixed with gall (Matthew 27:34); 15. "Jesus of Nazareth the King of the Jews" (John 19:19); 16. Hebrew, Greek, Latin (John 19:20); 17. "Truly this man was the Son of God" (Mark 15:39); 18. The veil in temple was torn from top to bottom (Matthew 27:51); 19. Three hours (Luke 23:44–45); 20. Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus (John 19:38–42); 21. Mary Magdalene (Mark 16:9).

## The Birth of Jesus Christ Was on This Wise ...

**Directions:** Find your answers in Isaiah 7:14; 9:6; Matthew 1–2, Luke 1–2, and John 1:14.

1. What angel appeared to Mary with the message that she was chosen to bear Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_
2. The prophet said that a \_\_\_\_\_ would conceive and bear a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. "Unto us a \_\_\_\_\_ is born, unto us a \_\_\_\_\_ is given."
4. When Joseph contemplated what to do after he found out that Mary was expecting, who appeared to him? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Who did the angel say was responsible for Mary being "with child"? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What did the angel tell Joseph to do with Mary? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Who was the Roman Caesar at the time Jesus was born? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Who was governor of Syria when the first enrollment for taxes occurred? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Where did Joseph and Mary live before Jesus was born? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Why were Joseph and Mary away from home when Jesus was born? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Who was Joseph's famous ancestor (he was of the "house" of...)? \_\_\_\_\_
12. In what town was Jesus born? \_\_\_\_\_
13. In what was Jesus wrapped at birth? \_\_\_\_\_
14. What did Mary use for a cradle? \_\_\_\_\_
15. "And on earth \_\_\_\_\_ among men."
16. What does the name *Immanuel* mean? \_\_\_\_\_
17. "And the \_\_\_\_\_ was made \_\_\_\_\_, and dwelt among us."
18. After how many days was Jesus circumcised? \_\_\_\_\_
19. What offering did Joseph and Mary make for purification? \_\_\_\_\_
20. Joseph did not "know" Mary sexually until \_\_\_\_\_.
21. What king threatened to kill baby Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_
22. Where did Joseph take his family to be protected? \_\_\_\_\_

# A BOOK FOR ALL SEASONS

The Bible is all-sufficient because it instructs us in every relationship and stage of life:

- Children—Ephesians 6:1–3
- Husband/Wife—Ephesians 5:22–33
- Parents—Ephesians 6:4
- Employees/Employers—Ephesians 6:5–8
- Young—1 Timothy 4:12
- Old—Titus 2:1–3
- Outside Christ—John 3:3–5
- In Christ—2 Peter 1:5–8; Galatians 5:22–24

This book gives us timeless answers for

- Rearing children (read Proverbs)
- Improving our marriages (read Song of Solomon)
- Managing our emotions (read Psalms)
- Handling our money (read Proverbs)
- Breaking bad habits (read John)
- Finding fulfillment in life (read Ecclesiastes)
- Experiencing God’s forgiveness (read Acts)
- Receiving eternal life (read 1 John)

Have you read the Bible yet?

Cut out this section and mail it to the address on the front.

## Recommended Resource



Todd Clippard has committed to reading the Bible daily and sharing his thoughts on each day’s reading with you. A missionary, he brings a global perspective to his writing, while remaining down-to-earth. Join us each day in the reading, and share your thoughts as well. To check it out, go to [chaptertochapter.com](http://chaptertochapter.com).

## I want to learn more about the Bible!

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# That Vette Had Power

Ken Klaus wrote about an experience that taught him a valuable lesson:

A year or two ago a friend offered me a ride in his custom Corvette. That machine was beautiful to look at, impressive to sit in. Riding a few inches off the ground, my friend put that contraption through its paces.

In first gear I was thrown back into the seat. In second gear it felt like the G-force was stretching my face, just like an astronaut during blastoff. In third gear we blew by an 18-wheeler like it was standing still. It was fantastic!

Then, when we were doing about 1,000 miles an hour (I may be exaggerating), we came upon a parked police vehicle. The Vette slowed down. The 18-wheeler slowed down. Everybody slowed down.

That's the point. That Vette had power. That 18-wheeler, with a full load and a big diesel engine, had power.

But that parked police car had authority!

There are in this world a great many groups, individuals, and organizations that have power. They have the financial power, political power, or majority power to impress us, seduce us, and intimidate us. But when it comes to authority, that's different ([www.sermonillustrator.org](http://www.sermonillustrator.org)).

Satan has power. Rob Chaffart observed, "His power lies in his ability to deceive. When we fall for his deceptions, we give him authority over our lives and he takes us captive." Jesus said, "Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin" (John 8:34). And wrote, "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23).

Christ has both power and authority. He demonstrated both attributes by His miracles. His most astounding expression of power and authority was demonstrated when He died on the cross for our sins and was resurrected from the dead three days later. By His death, burial, and resurrection, He defeated Satan (cf. Hebrews 2:14) and made our redemption possible!

—David A. Sargent, Minister, Mobile Alabama

*"Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: in whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins"*

COLOSSIANS 1:13-14

## Omnipotent ...

A college student asked his preacher, "Do you think there is life on other planets?"

The preacher said, "No, I don't think so."

The student replied, "You mean, all those billions and billions and billions of planets out there—and you don't think there's life out there?"

He said, "No, I really don't think so."

The student then asked, "Then, why did God go to all that trouble to make all that stuff?"

The preacher said, "What trouble?"

*"Ah Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee"*

JEREMIAH 32:17

It was no trouble—He spoke, and it was so. The only trouble that God ever had was bloody Calvary when He gave His beloved Son for humanity's sins.

*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life"*

JOHN 3:16

## Not Enough Time

*USA Today* sought the advice of experts from various fields to chart how much time is needed for the daily necessities of life—if you did everything the experts said you were supposed to, for as long as they said you should.

The experts stated:

- You should sleep for 7.5 hours
- Exercise for 30 minutes
- Spend 45 minutes for personal grooming
- Allow 1 hour for cooking and eating
- Spend 1–2 hours for housekeeping and chores
- Work 7–10 hours
- Grocery shop for about 20 minutes.

The *USA Today* article also contained expert advice on how much time to spend with children, with your spouse, commuting, reading, and other daily activities. *USA Today* counted up all the minutes needed for our daily tasks, and it came to 42 hours!

Obviously, no one has that much time in a day. What do we do? We prioritize to get done what needs to be done. “See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:15–16).

The most important matter in our lives is our relationship with God, but many never find enough time to fit God in. Don’t make that mistake. Seek God first, and other things will fall into place (Matthew

6:33). —David Sargant. [www.illustrationsforsermons.com](http://www.illustrationsforsermons.com) citing “Just how much can you fit into a day?”

*USA Today*. ([www.creekwoodcc.org/lw/lw\\_Not%20Enough%20Time.htm](http://www.creekwoodcc.org/lw/lw_Not%20Enough%20Time.htm)).



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