

In His Shadow Creations

Advancing God's Kingdom through the Worship Arts

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Some Kingdom Purposes for the Arts

Have you ever asked yourself what was and is God's purpose or purposes for art?

We see in Genesis that God was the ultimate artist, God as creator. *Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*

Why did God create the universe and every thing in it?

God wanted to be worshipped and adored. He wanted something that would reflect His glory.

This is one of the purposes of Art. **To reflect God's glory.**

God created every living thing out of the environment it was meant to live in, and to return to when it died.

When God created man He was created in His image. God spoke to Himself to create man. The environment we were created to live in is the presence of God. *Gen 1:26-28 And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the heavens, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over all the creepers creeping on the earth. Gen 1:27 And God created man in His image; in the image of God He created him. He created them male and female. Gen 1:28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, Be fruitful, and multiply and fill the earth, and subdue it. And have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of the heavens, and all animals that move upon the earth.*

Man's body is created from the dust of the ground where his body goes when it dies and God breathed His spirit into man, which returns to Him when man's body dies.

God walked with man in the garden. When man fell he was expelled from the presence of God.

How can man be restored to God's presence? Fast forward in the Bible to Exodus 24-31 Moses gets revelation of the restoration process. God tells him in verse 31 to set aside Bezaleel to create the tabernacle and all of it's furnishings.

Strong's Lexicon says the meaning of Bezaleel is: In the shadow of God or after the character of God. *Exo 31:2 Behold, I, I have called by name Bezaleel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah.*

Bezaleel is one of the first artists mentioned in the Bible.

Exo 31:3 And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all workmanship,

Exo 31:4 to devise designs; to work in gold, and in silver, and in bronze,

Exo 31:5 and in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all workmanship.

Principle of first mention. In Biblical scholarship first mention sets up the standard for all that follows.

Bezaleel first man to be mentioned that was filled with the Spirit of God.

Bezaleel according to Ancient Historical Hebrew texts was only 12 years old at this time!

Expressing passionate worship through the arts.

So what was it that he was commissioned to create? It was *an environment by which mankind can once again be restored to the presence of God.*

So we see from this example that another purpose of artists is *to create environments to restore mankind to the presence of God. Environments that draw us to Him!*

This applies to all the various art forms. Visual art, Music, Drama etc...

So, you ask; what about the state of the arts in this world now?

We know also that the Devil only perverts what God created. The perversion of the arts is to pull people away from the presence of God.

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