

Planet Earth: Is There Any Hope? – Part 1

Psalm 6-8

Introduction:

1. We are living on a big ball called “planet earth.” The earth is suspended in the air, speeding through the solar system at 66,000 miles per hour.
2. Why is there life on this earth? Did it happen by random chance? No, the Bible teaches that God placed life on this earth, but why?
3. As you look around at the atrocities that are committed on this earth on a daily basis, it leads people to ask the question, "Why did God put life on planet earth?"
4. The ultimate answer to this question is that God created the heavens and the earth that they all might magnify and glorify His Son, Jesus Christ. **Colossians 1:16**
5. God has a glorious purpose for the earth, the heavens, and mankind. But much of what we see today is not very glorious. It is quite ugly. Why is there so much evil on the earth? Is there any hope? What is God's ultimate plan for this earth?
6. Psalm 6-8 holds the answers to these questions. Much of the book of Psalms is very prophetic in nature and lays out for us God's future plans for this earth.

Why is there so much evil on this earth?

1. People will often say, "This world has gotten so wicked." They say this as if 50 years ago it was a righteous and holy place.
2. Let me let you in on a little secret - this earth has always been full of evil and wickedness. In Genesis 3, mankind is in the Garden of Eden, and by Genesis 6, notice the description God gives of this earth. **Genesis 6:5; 1 John 5:19; Ezekiel 9:9**
3. Why is this? **Romans 5:12** holds the answer. Ever since the Garden of Eden, mankind, by and large, has lived in rebellion against God and His Word.
Psalm 14:1-3
 - In Genesis 3, Satan questioned God's Word, changed God's Word, and repudiated God's Word. He then substituted God's Word with his own lies.
 - Satan advertised his policy of evil and his "lie program" in Genesis 3, and mankind bought it. Since then every person is faced with a choice. Will you believe Satan's "lie program" or believe what God has said? **John 8:44-47**
4. This is the battle happening on the earth today, but it is nothing new. David was a man after God's own heart and believed God's Word, but notice the battle he faced as we read our text. 6:7-8, 10, 7:1-2
5. Mankind is broken down into two groups in Scripture:
 - Children of God. **Galatians 3:26**
 - Children of the wicked one. **Matthew 13:38**
6. The children of God have always been in the minority, and God's Word warns us that just as the world persecuted and rejected Christ, His children can expect the same. Those who hold to God's Word are enemies of Satan and his world system. **John 17:14-17**
7. Many times on this earth, God's children suffer, and the children of the wicked one seem to have the upper hand and seem to be getting away with evil. 73:3, 5, 12-17

- Death (6:5), weariness (6:6), tears (6:6), grief (6:7), and weeping (6:8) are all a part of this earth.
8. The Bible prophesies that one day Satan will have his anointed man that will rule this earth - he is called the man of sin, the son of perdition, anti-Christ. He will rule in a period of time called the Tribulation (use chart).
 9. If you think things are bad now, during this time the Satanic policy of evil will reach it zenith, and the children of God (the believing remnant of Israel) will go through trials and tribulation like never before. **Matthew 24:21-22;**
Jeremiah 25:32
 10. In many of the psalms, David is a picture of this suffering remnant of believers. God will bring chastening to this world system, and David doesn't want to be in that group (6:1). Notice his cry in 6:8-10.
 11. Why is there so much evil on the earth today? It is because of mankind's rebellion against God's Word and choosing to believe Satan's lies.
 - God gave Adam and Eve His Word - they rebelled and disobeyed.
 - God gave Israel His Word (the law) - they rebelled and disobeyed it.
 - God gave Israel the Word of Life (Jesus Christ), and they rebelled and said, *"Away with him, crucify him."*
 12. It was prophesied that when Israel and the nations took God's Son and crucified Him, God would send wrath and judgment to this earth.
 13. Instead of doing this immediately, God graciously, once again, gave the world His Word. He raised up a man named Paul and revealed to him a glorious message.
 - It is the message that God will extend grace, mercy, and forgiveness to every sinner on this earth on the basis of what His Son did on the cross.
 - Christ died on the cross (having never sinned), and there He made a full and complete payment for the sins of all mankind. **Romans 5:8**
 - If a person will simply believe and trust in what Christ did, God will grant full forgiveness and give that person eternal life. **Romans 5:1, 6:23**
 14. We are living in the time of grace (use chart). God is allowing evil to continue and He is withholding judgment in order to give sinners a chance to turn to Jesus Christ in faith and be saved. He is giving to this evil world a grace period before judgment comes.
 15. But is there any hope for this sinful earth? What will God ultimately do? Next week we will answer these questions from Psalms 7-8.