



# BORN TO DIE

## WITH A PURPOSE!



Picture source: <http://www.thechurning.net/every-new-beginning-comes-from-some-other-beginnings-end/>

### Objective:

- To point out that although we all **Die** one day, we all have a **Purpose** while **Alive!**
- To highlight that we should not wait until it is too late to live your purpose!

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## INTRODUCTION:

I identify four types of people in this article:

1. Most People are just "Born to Die".



2. Then there are some People that follow the logo to the right (for some it means "Born to Die fast" or "Born wild, Die Young").



3. Then there are those "Born to become Successful, and then Die" and



4. Then there is a 4<sup>th</sup> category... (will discuss later), but they also Die later

## A STORY RELATED TO THE FIRST GROUP ABOVE:

John Smith grew up in a normal household, married a normal wife, had a normal job, went to a normal workplace, ate the same sandwiches his wife prepared every day, worked in the garden on Saturdays and then watched his favourite sports with nobody allowed to touch the remote! He bought a "bakkie" (small truck for those not living in South Africa) and a canopy was fitted as a standard requirement. He had a "grand" car (polished on Saturdays), to be used on Sundays when going to church and on Sundays it was time for the black suite, the serious face and time for God. A huge Sunday lunch was a necessity, followed by the standard Sunday afternoon nap which was then followed by the "Sunday blues"... Monday was business as usual and the same process repeated each day until it was time to think of retirement.

Later he could not wait for his retirement and when it eventually arrived, he remained in his house until it was too much effort to maintain, after which he and his wife moved to a retirement home where his children visited them from time-to-time until both of them died... Their children witnessed their parents' lives and believed that this is what life is all about and how life should play out, so they followed in their footsteps...

Mary also grew up in a normal household met her husband, married and lived a normal life from day-to-day until both died and yes, how many millions and millions of people live lives



similar to the above and then **Die**? Born, live a normal life day in and day out and then **Die**! Their "Purpose" in life was to live and try not to **Die** too soon...

In short "They were **Born to Die**"!

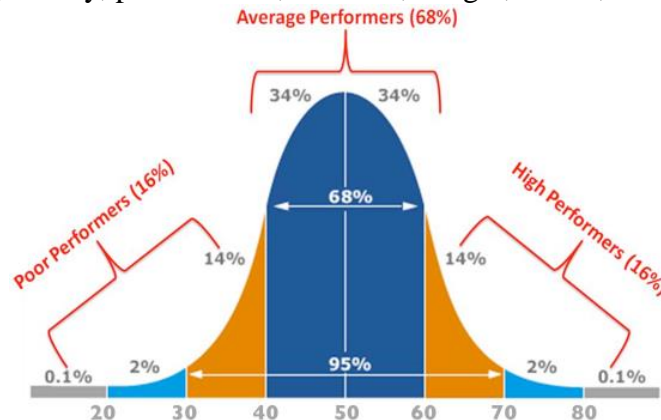
HOWEVER... , even if they did live a normal life and Died and not pursued a real Purpose, God may still have had an indirect Purpose with them. This may have been to provide a solid foundation or good example to family and friends. I believe that God however still wanted them to do more and become "Hot" for God...:

<sup>15</sup> He says, "I know what you do. I know that you are neither cold nor hot. And I wish that you were cold or hot. <sup>16</sup> So I will spit you out of my mouth, because you are only warm and not hot or cold.

**Revelation 3:15-16**

## THE BELL CURVE:

Most of you should know the famous Bell Curve that basically states that most people are "average" and fall in the middle blue part of the Bell curve and this relates to most things in life like intelligence, money, performance, athletics, weight, health, etc...



Source: <https://teacherhead.com/2013/07/17/assessment-standards-and-the-bell-curve>

Most people thus probably fall in category 1 above (the average "Born to Die" type).

What about category 2? There are probably less of them, perhaps on the left or right spectrum of the Bell curve? Who are they (the "one life, live it" type that "Play hard, Die Young type")? Let us look at a Story related to this second category below.



## STORY RELATED TO GROUP TWO ABOVE:

Mark Jump was an adrenaline junkie! The wilder the sport, the more excited he got. Fast cars, parachute cliff jumping, participation in the annual bull-run and rock climbing without ropes, formed part of his "normal" routine! He made full use of his life on earth and thus lived dangerously on the edge. Guess what, he also died young in a "death defying jump"...

So Mark Jump was one of those (few) on the other side of the Bell curve:



In short "**Born to Die soon**"!

Interesting to note what the Bible has to say about those in this category:

*Be not overly wicked, neither be a fool. Why should you die before your time?*

[Ecclesiastes 7:17](#)

Other than for themselves, what real difference did they make on earth? Were they just "Cold" or "Warm" people for a short while on earth?

Now let us look at the 3<sup>rd</sup> group below.

## STORY RELATED TO GROUP THREE ABOVE:

Don Triumph dreamt of success and money from a very early age! At school he was selling goods to his schoolmates and at 20 he already formed a successful software company. He became Director in a number of organisations and worked 18 hours a day! Money flowed in, time was always limited and there was no time for any vacation or anything else. When he was eligible to retire, he carried on working, as it was much more exciting than resting. He was on many Boards and one day collapsed during a Board meeting and guess what, also **died**.

In short "**Born to be successful and then Die**"!

Here is the problem, he had Billions and guess what, his family started fighting over his inheritance and this resulted in the death of a family member as well as the entire family drifting apart. Don ended up leaving a very negative legacy, despite all his money, success and achievements!



### **On the lighter side of being rich:**

A very rich, but good man was on his "deathbed" and saw God above him, so asked God if he can take his wealth to Heaven. God eventually agreed (with a grin) after a lot of begging from the man. When the man died, he arrived in Heaven with 19 Gold bars, but the gatekeeper looked disgusted and surprised at him! The gatekeeper asked the man "why on "earth" would you bring your own paving bricks to Heaven"?

## **WHAT THE THREE GROUPS ABOVE DID NOT SEEM TO REALISE**

If only John, Mary, Mark and Don as well as million others, realise the following:

- Out of about 300 000 000 "others", they were the "winners" (strongest/best/chosen one) to get through and impregnate their mother's egg to be born.

**Everybody born, are thus born special, basically a "Miracle" happened because 299 999 999 others did not make it**

Something as complex as a Human brought into this life is definitely not just Born to Die later, there must be more to it...

**Everybody born, are thus born with a "Purpose"!**

Put another way:

**"If you still alive, you have a PURPOSE"!**

**Ok, you now see that you are unique and had a successful birth compared to millions of other siblings that did not make it, so you are born with a Purpose, even if you feel useless at everything!**

"Useless"? You actually NOT useless, as everybody has been allocated talents and gifts!



Check this out:

*"In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly." - **Romans 12:6-8***

Need s second opinion? Go view these other verses below:

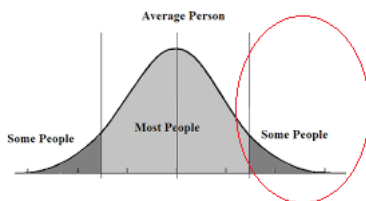
- Corinthians 12:7-11
- 1 Peter 4:10-11

So everybody born, are given a special Talent or more.

So know that we all have Talents, but it may not always immediately be clear what they are!

## A STORY RELATED TO GROUP FOUR ABOVE:

Kim Ming was at the other end of the Bell Curve (let us say in the red circle below):



Kim knew she was born with a Purpose! (hooray!)

Kim identified her Talents and was able to exploit them! (hooray!)

She realised that when she utilised her Talents, she was obviously good at them and this made her passionate about what she was doing (she therefore developed a natural **Passion**).

Having God's given **Talents** and exploiting them with **Passion** meant she was probably achieving her **Purpose**! (no matter what it was).

Let me repeat this important sentence:

Having God's given Talents and exploiting them with Passion meant she was probably achieving her Purpose!  
And "no matter what it was"



I believe there is a direct link between these three (Talents, Passion and Purpose) and I will still write an article just on this topic, but in short, the following:

- Your Passion is often linked to your Talents (when you good at something (have a Talent for it), it is satisfying and your like it, so develop a Passion);
- Your Purpose is often linked to your Passion/Talent (God gave you a Talent for a reason or put otherwise God gave you a Talent for a Purpose);
- Some have Talents, but they do not exploit them enough for others (worst still is that someone may never discovers their Talents, but I believe God will always guide someone in the right direction if they really want to be steered);
- Some have Passions, but never get an opportunity to live them out, perhaps due to being stuck in a career? (Sad);
- Some identify their Purpose and live this out (Good);
- Some identify their Purpose, but fail to live this out adequately (Sad);
- Others find it hard to find their "real" Purpose or do not know what their Purpose is, yet they achieve this indirectly. Some even Die without knowing what their Purpose was, but their Purpose may only come out after their death! (e.g. their death had a Purpose in itself such as to raise awareness about something).
- I believe that even if someone does not have a clear vision of their Purpose, they still have one or more and God directly or indirectly will guide people towards it, but He still gives Man "Free Will" to decide whether to pursue their Purpose or not!
- **Bottom line**, your Purpose can be anything, but should not be self-centred! Let us look at some unique examples below:

### True Example 1:

In another article I ask the question: "*Do you know who these people are?*"

- Nikollë and Dranfile Bojaxhiu (Bernai) and
- William Edward Shore and Frances Smith

Some of you may know, others may not, but let us assume they just lived a normal life, **but** they made sure their children got love, attention, a good education, they set a good example, they taught them what is right and wrong and/or taught them religion!?

In the above cases they may have felt that they achieved nothing in life in terms of their Purpose, but they would be wrong. Their Purpose was to groom and prepare two of the greatest children of all time! (if you want to know who their children are, try Google)...

The above pair thus probably had an **indirect** Purpose!

### True Example 2:

From an article:

*"On 18 December 1994, a Port Elizabeth resident Alison Botha was abducted, raped, stabbed and left for dead by Frans du Toit and Theuns Kruger. They slashed her throat so deeply she had*





to hold her own head on as she crawled to the road for help. With her other hand she had to hold in the organs spilling from her stomach, where she had been stabbed more than 30 times. By some miracle – and this is a word that crops up frequently in Alison’s story – the knife thrusts had missed her main arteries, so she did not bleed to death and was able to breathe through her severed trachea. The 27-year-old survived and made it her life’s purpose to help others find strength” (<https://www.timeslive.co.za/sunday-times/books/news/2018-12-13-abducted-raped-stabbed-and-left-for-dead-alison-bothas-incredible-story-of-survival-now-a-film/>)

Today she is a motivational speaker and has written a book about her ordeal. She turned something bad into something good. I am not saying that was her initial Purpose, but she found a Purpose and she is making a difference.

### True (I believe) Example 3:

A lady brought up children and all of them seemed to have turned out a “failure” in life with problems, addictions and heart breaks. She died and one of her children, although still feeling like a failure, obtained an indirect opportunity to make a difference! That mother may have felt she was a failure on her deathbed, but she was not. Indirectly, yes “indirectly”, she contributed to her one child getting an opportunity to make a difference, as this child has been carrying and caring for her Siblings, else they would have died a long time ago.

### True Example 4:

We also hear of people who started a foundation or raised awareness due to them having an incurable disease or being abused and only after their death, their movement (foundation) turns out to be a success or turns out making a real difference! That person did not Die in vain, but had a Purpose and fulfilled it even if it was only after their death!

So know that we all have a Purpose or more, but it may not always be clear what they are!

Now God said: “Go make disciples of all nations” and this may sound like the purpose of us all, but each person’s personality, passions and ability (talents) are different, so each may have a different Purpose:

*“<sup>4</sup> For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup> We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your<sup>[a]</sup> faith; <sup>7</sup> if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup> if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead,<sup>[b]</sup> do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully”. **Romans 12:4-12***





## LEGACIES

There are two types of legacies people can leave, the **Positive** Legacy when someone lives out God's Purpose He had for them (positively impacting others) and those that leave a **Negative** Legacy when they had a Purpose (I believe we all have a Purpose), but turned out so bad and corrupt that they missed their Purpose and caused harm to many. An example is Adolf Hitler who was given a very good talent, that of speaking in public and being able to "motivate" people, but he used that Talent for the wrong reasons and left a Negative Legacy (he eliminate many people from other nations).

I will still write an article about our Legacies we leave, but all I want to say here is, leave a **positive** legacy, not a **Negative** one.

In the adjacent picture some people hit their "purpose target" spot-on and leave a **Positive Legacy**, some hit it partially, but:

- Some miss it completely;
- Some do not even try and meet their Purpose (those "Born to Die" type); and
- Some hurt people or the nature and as a result, not only miss their Purpose, but leave a **Negative Legacy**.



Credit: [https://www.123rf.com/photo\\_82975579\\_stock-vector-3d-man-white-people-holding-target-isolated-on-white-background-3d-vector-logo.html](https://www.123rf.com/photo_82975579_stock-vector-3d-man-white-people-holding-target-isolated-on-white-background-3d-vector-logo.html)



## TIMING

So when should you try and identify your Purpose? The short answer is NOW! God gives us all "Free Will" to decide whether to seek our Purpose or not. He wants us to seek it ASAP, because you have a set life span. Our days are determined and limited:

1 *Since his **days are determined**, and the number of his months is with you, and you have appointed his limits that he cannot pass, **Job 14:5***

And anything can happen to you at anytime:

2 *Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"—yet you do not **know what tomorrow will bring**. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." **James 4:13-15***

So make the best use of your time:

3 *Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the **best use of the time**, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. **Ephesians 5:15-17***

Because our life on earth is very very short:

4 *"O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting I am! Behold, you have made my days **a few handbreadths**, and my lifetime is as nothing before you. Surely **all mankind stands as a mere breath!** Selah **Psalm 39:4-5***

And everybody WILL Die:

5 *For what happens to the children of man and what happens to the beasts is the same; **as one dies, so dies the other**. They all have the same breath, and man has no advantage over the beasts, for all is vanity. **Ecclesiastes 3:19***

Your Legacy (Positive or Negative) that you left on earth will be judged...

6 *And just as it is appointed for man to **die once**, and after that **comes judgment**, **Hebrews 9:27***



What about those with an incurable disease?

Ok, so you know your end date! So should you sit and wait for the big day? NO, "YOU STILL HAVE A PURPOSE!". You still have a "**POSITIVE**" Purpose to deliver! If you do not know what it is, ask God for guidance. Obviously you can also talk to God about your condition and healing, but know God has a Plan with ALL of us and it is up to Him to decide. I numbered the issues above, because I wanted to you to take note of point 6 above and why it is still important for you to find and pursue your Purpose even in your last days.

## IN CLOSING

### "Points to Ponder"

Which one are you going to be if you consider yourself a 1 in >300 000 000?

Yes, you were "Born to Die", but still special and thus WITH A PURPOSE!

Go leave a **Positive Legacy!**

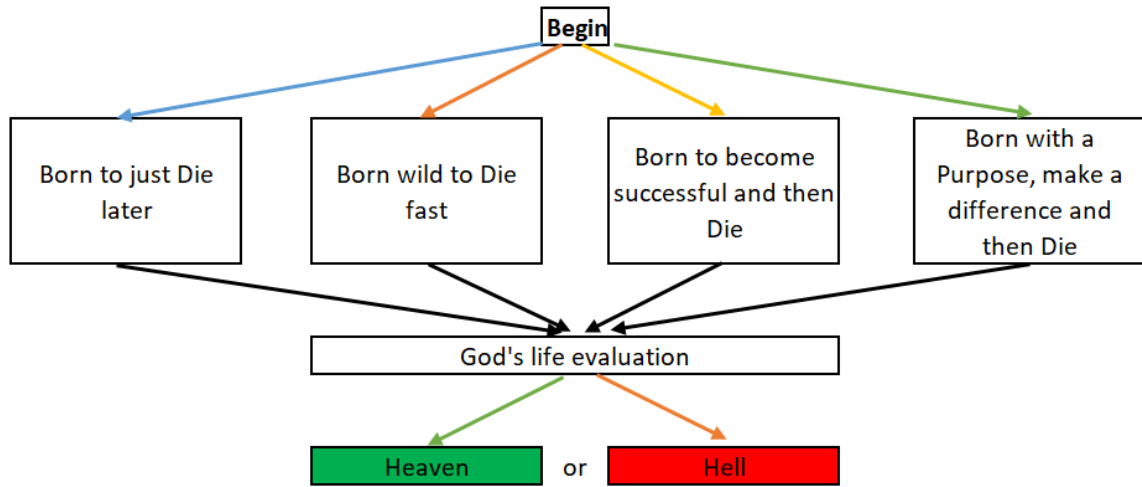
Remember YOUR PURPOSE is as Unique as you are.

I have to repeat the below, as it clearly states we have different Talents, thus different Purposes, so do NOT get discouraged if you not doing what others are doing:

*"<sup>4</sup> For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup> We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your <sup>[a]</sup> faith; <sup>7</sup> if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup> if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, <sup>[b]</sup> do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully". **Romans 12:4-12***



## “Summary Flow diagram”





### RECAP QUESTIONS:

NO	QUESTION	YOUR ANSWER
1	Name the 4 different groups of people in this article?	
2	Which one are you currently?	
3	Which one do you think you must become?	
4	Based on the above question 3 and the 4 examples I gave above, which one do you think you should pursue?	
5	What is "Romans 12:4-12" telling you personally?	

### RELATED ARTICLES:

NO	RELATED ARTICLES	COMMENTS