

What is my purpose in life?

determination

object

Aim



What is my purpose in life?

“something set up as an object or end to be attained; an object or result aimed at”

design

intention

GOAL

resolution

objective

END



The Game of

L

I

F

E

OBJECT:

Collect money....and have the highest dollar amount
at the end of the game

The Game of

L

I

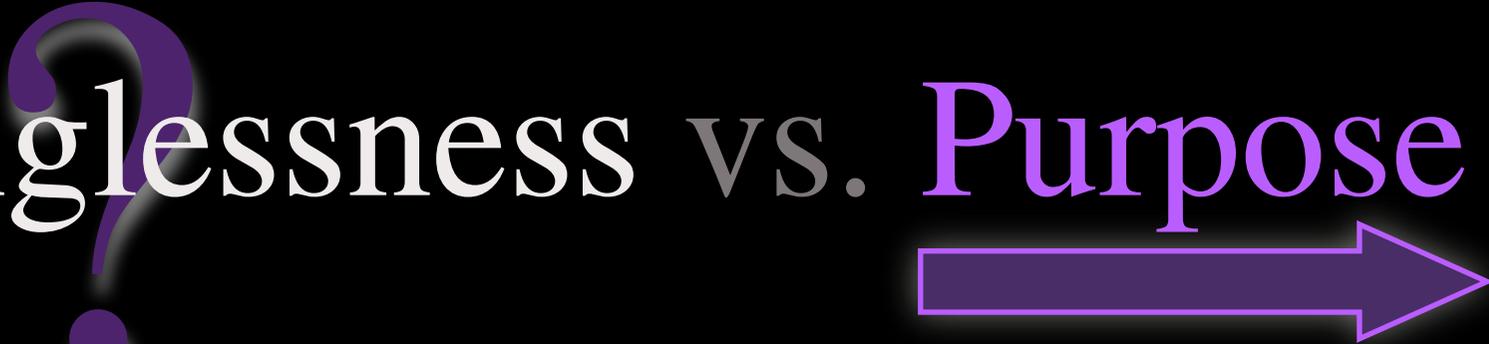
F

E

Are our lives any more meaningful than a game?

WHY?

Meaninglessness vs. Purpose



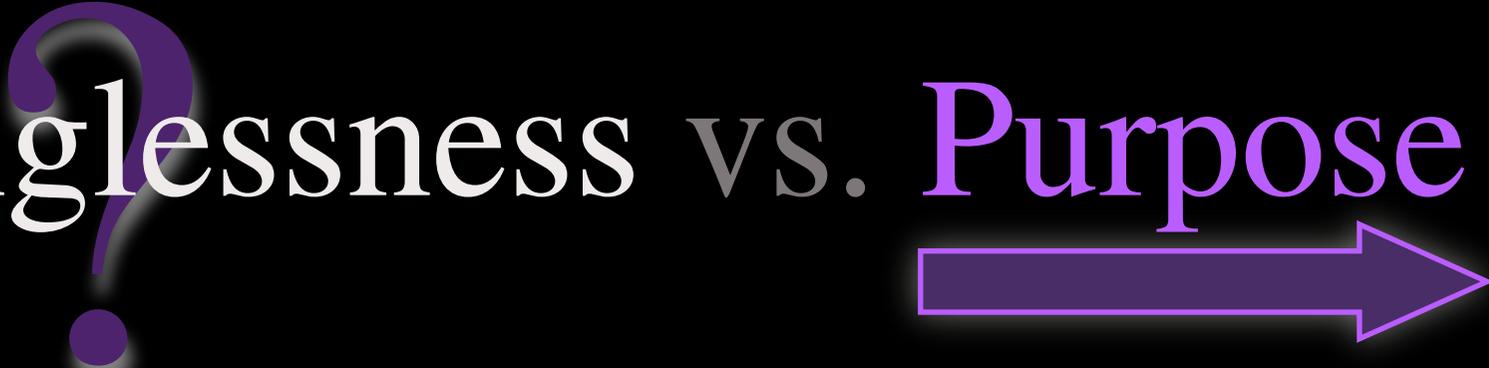
Aldous
Huxley

“I had motives for not wanting the world to have a meaning; consequently assumed that it had none, and was able without any difficulty to find satisfying reasons for this assumption.

The philosopher who finds no meaning in the world ... is also concerned to prove that there is no valid reason why he personally should not do as he wants to do.... For myself, the philosophy of meaninglessness was essentially an instrument of liberation, sexual and political.”

(Ends and Means, pp. 270ff)

Meaninglessness vs. Purpose

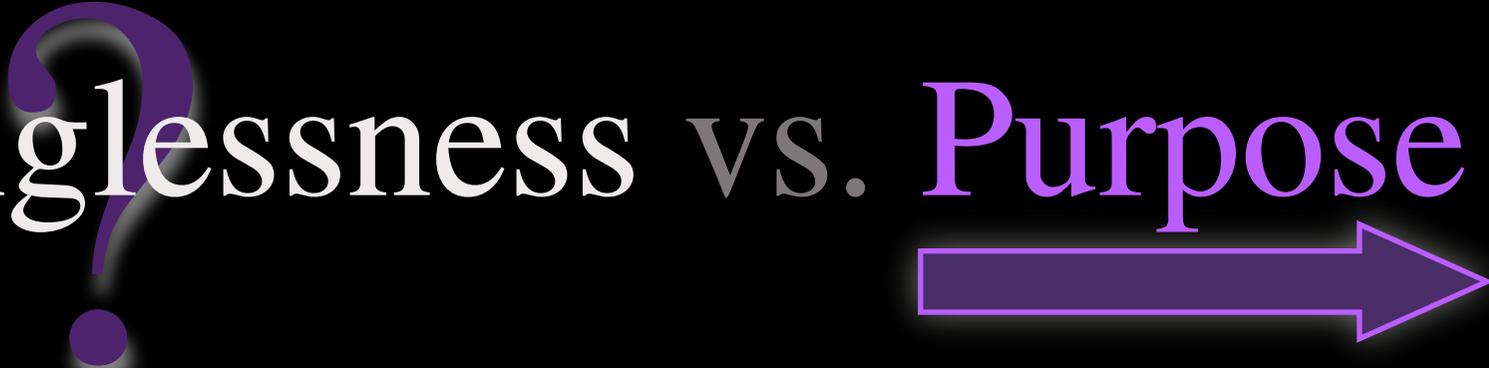


Richard
Dawkins

“Such a universe would be neither evil nor good in intention. It would manifest no intentions of any kind. In a universe of blind physical forces and genetic replication, some people are going to get hurt, other people are going to get lucky, and you won’t find any rhyme or reason in it, nor any justice. The universe we observe has precisely the properties we should expect if there is, at bottom, no design, nor purpose, no evil and no good, nothing but blind, pitiless indifference.”

(River Out of Eden, 1995)

Meaninglessness vs. Purpose



Sam
Harris

“On the contrary, religious people often worry that life is meaningless and imagine that it can only be redeemed by the promise of eternal happiness beyond the grave. Atheists tend to be quite sure that life is precious. Life is imbued with meaning by being really and fully lived. Our relationships with those we love are meaningful now; they need not last forever to be made so. Atheists tend to find this fear of meaninglessness ... well ... meaningless.”

(10 Myths and 10 Truths About Atheism)

The Appearance of Meaninglessness

Ecclesiastes

1:2-4

2:11-17

3:19,20

The Appearance of Meaninglessness

Ecclesiastes

**What profit has the worker
from that in which
he labors? - 3:9**

1:13,14

3:10-15

Yahweh is a God of purpose



Acts 17:24-28

Job 42:2,3

Jesus

John 18:37; 12:27

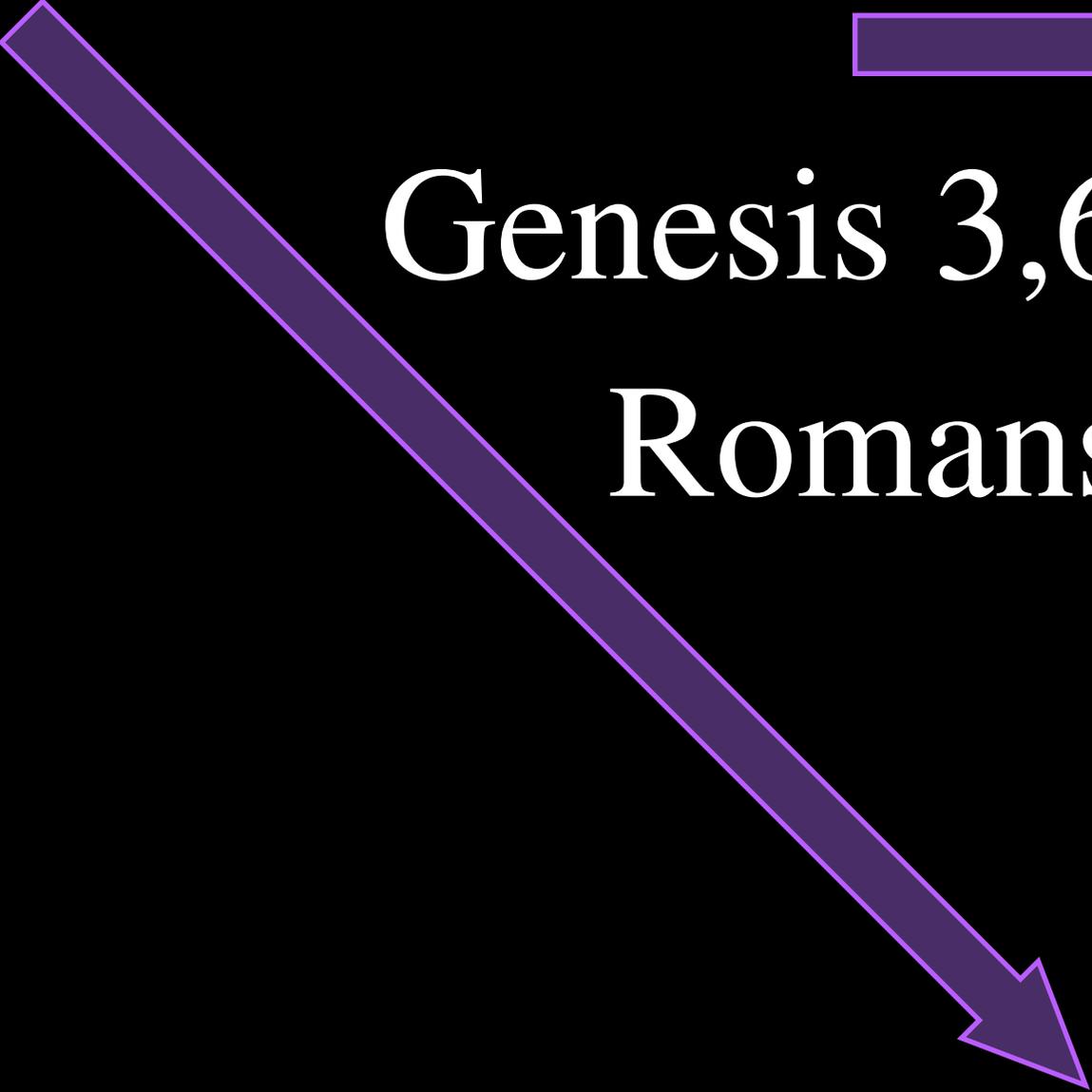
Ephesians 3:8-13

our purpose \neq God's purpose



Genesis 3,6,11

Romans 1:18-32



God's purpose = our purpose



we seek Him

Acts 17:29-31

we repent

Romans 8:28,29

we conform to Christ

Romans 8:31-39

we endure

Acts 11:19-23 • 2 Timothy 3:10-15

we encourage others to do likewise

L

I

F

E

OBJECT:

Fear God and keep His commandments