

1 PETER 1:3-4 BORN TO BE...

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you,

Ever since Rick Warren's book, *The Purpose-Driven Church*, the concept of purpose has been in vogue among church people. With the idea of purpose comes meaning through the identification of a *raison d'être* – a reason for being. When one searches for purpose, one is searching for significance. Every culture throughout history has had its “drop-outs,” those individuals who lacked purpose and found life to be meaningless. In Ecclesiastes, the Preacher declares that all human activity is a vanity – meaningless. Was he a Hebrew drop-out? No, he was a wise man who saw that our only true purpose is born of God. As Peter wrote, *God has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ...an inheritance that can never perish*. Purpose and meaning in our life comes not from what we do or how the world receives our work, but from obeying God, seeking his will and being who he created us to be. We are not a society of dead poets, we are reborn by the Spirit as first born living sons, eternal heirs of the King who is above all kings.

Come Holy Spirit, awaken me from my stupor and revive in me the transformed life into which you birthed me. Deliver me from my earthly and futile focus and give me kingdom eyes and a kingdom heart. Remind me that I am a son of the Father, so I can be a servant to my brothers. Amen.