

**Animals
according to the
Bible: By Erica
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God created the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the wild beasts of the field, and the cattle. He saw that they were all good. It was part of God's plan and purpose to create these animals. God wanted to use these animals for his good and glory on the earth. God created human beings to have dominion over these animals. Animals do not rule human beings, but humans rule animals. A human being has authority and dominion over the animals. A lot of the animals God created to be eaten for food. But then there are some animals that should not be eaten for food.

Genesis 1:21 says, "And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good."

Genesis 1:24-26 says, "And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so. And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good. 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 air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.”

Psalm 8:6-9 says, “Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet: all sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field; The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas. O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!”

To tame means to make it less powerful and easier to control. Many animals today have been tamed by human beings. There are animals that will actually go up to human beings without hurting them because they have been tamed by the humans. James 3:7 says, “For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind.”

Animals can sense when something big is about to happen. They can sense when there is a change in the

atmosphere. But human beings are not always aware of the times and even judgment that is coming. Many humans ignore these signs and times that they are living in. They find themselves at the judgment at the end of their life because they did not heed the warnings. But we can be more prepared for the days to come and for the judgment that is coming to the world. We can be like the birds and have heightened sense of awareness. We can ask God to help us to be ready and prepared for what is to come.

Jeremiah 8:7 says, "Yea, the stork in the heaven knoweth her appointed times; and the turtle and the crane and the swallow observe the time of their coming; but my people know not the judgment of the LORD."

Luke 12:24 says, "Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls?"

Birds set the perfect example for human beings because they do not store up their food in barns as we store up our food in our pantries. We are of more

value than the birds. We can trust that God is going to provide us with food. We can trust that God is going to make a way possible for us. Even when we have nothing, we can trust that God will still supply our needs just like he does for the birds. The birds rely on and depend on God for their every need. The bird finds worms in the grass because the Father strategically puts them there to provide for the bird's needs.

This can go the same for the lions. The lions look to God to provide them with their food. The lion does not know where its next meal is going to come from but trusts that God is going to show up with the food. If God cares for the birds and the lions, then he cares much more for us too. Psalm 104:21 says, "The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God.

For the righteous man that has animals takes good care of them and makes sure that their needs are met. The righteous man does not treat his animals wickedly or unfairly. He treats them with respect. The wicked are not so. The wicked are cruel to animals. The wicked do not have mercy for their animals. Proverbs 12:10 says, "A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel."

Genesis 2:19-20 says, “And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.”

God formed the creatures from the ground and allowed Adam to give all the animals specific names. God allowed Adam to have authority and dominion over every living creature. This was before God created Eve from Adam's rib cage. Then, after the animals were created and named, God formed Eve.

Psalms 145:9 says, “The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.” The Lord is good to all that he has created. He is merciful, gracious, and kind to every creature that he has made on the face of the earth. He created animals and humans with specific purposes. He has a perfect plan and purpose for everything that he has created on the

earth. He is ultimately using animals and humans for his good and glory.

1 Corinthians 15:39-40 says, "All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds. There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another."

The flesh of a human being is different from the flesh of an animal, whether that be a fish, a bird, or a beast. There are celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies. The celestial bodies are anything found in space outside of the earth, such as stars, planets, or galaxies. Terrestrial bodies are found on earth, such as human beings and animals. The flesh of a human being or an animal is the outer exterior. That flesh or outer body will decay or pass away, but the spirit or soul will live on forever.

Psalms 36:6 says, "Thy righteousness is like the great mountains; thy judgments are a great deep: O LORD, thou preservest man and beast. God watches over man and the beasts of the field. He protects and preserves them for his glory and purpose."

