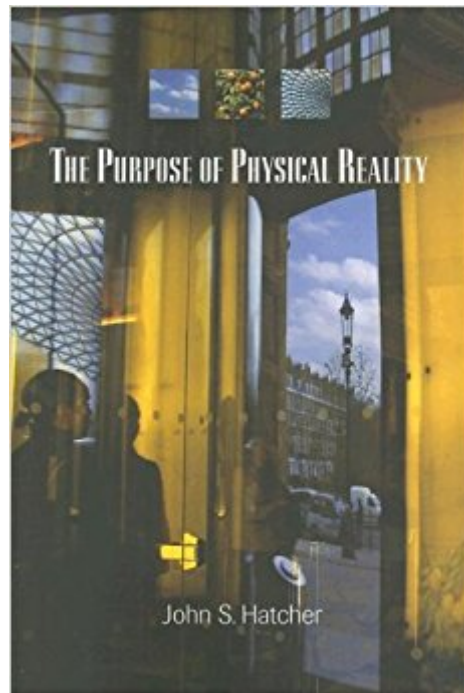




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The Purpose Of Physical Reality



Synopsis

If people are fundamentally spiritual beings, why do we begin our lives in the physical world? According to well-known Baha'i author, scholar, and educator John Hatcher, the answer can be found in looking at the world as a classroom designed by God to instigate and nurture mental and spiritual growth. *The Purpose of Physical Reality* explores the components of this classroom to show how everyday experience leads to spiritual insight. Viewing life in this way, we can learn to appreciate the overall justice of the Creator's plan and the subtle interplay between human free will and divine assistance in unleashing human potential. This new and updated edition of a work not previously available in bookstores is a companion volume to Hatcher's *Close Connections* (Baha'i Publishing, 2005).

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

John S. Hatcher holds a B.A. and M.A. in English literature from Vanderbilt University, a Ph.D. in English literature from the University of Georgia, and is currently professor and director of graduate studies in English literature at the University of South Florida in Tampa. A widely published poet and distinguished lecturer, he is the author of numerous books on literature, philosophy, and Baha'i theology and scripture, including *From the Auroral Darkness: The Life and Poetry of Robert E. Hayden*; *A Sense of History: The Poetry of John Hatcher*; *The Ocean of His Words: A Reader's Guide to the Art of Baha'u'llah*; and *Close Connections*.

Since I haven't finished this book, I will give it three (3) stars. The reason why I haven't finished it is because I just couldn't get myself to stick to it. If I jump back into it, I will surely update my review. By the way, I have a lot of kindle samples that I have not finished either. I love books and have many interests and needs, so I don't necessarily blame this book/author for my inability to finish the book. It's just that it's like being inside a candy store - where you see so many goodies you like, but can't make up your mind. Thanks.

Excellent! Helped me develop new insights about the material world and it's purpose to prepare our soul for spiritual existence after death.

Very insightful reading. Written from a Bahai perspective it sheds light on the reason we are on this planet in a physical body and provides hopeful enlightenment of the afterlife based on Bahai writings and NDE research.

fabulous book that explains the purpose of this physical life as a preparation for the next.

For the biggest questions in life. Who am I? Why am I here? What's my purpose? This classic book by John Hatcher provides life-changing insights that are so thoughtfully and effectively conveyed with awe-inspiring metaphors and penetrating research. If there's just one book that you read in your entire life on this most compelling subject, let it be The Purpose of Physical Reality.

I was drawn to this book by the title, first the word, "purpose", given I'm the founder of Life On Purpose Institute, and a Life On Purpose Coach. then the cover seemed interesting, especially since I'm looking for cover ideas for my own book, LIFE ON PURPOSE - The Courage to Live an Unconventional Life. I really didn't plan on reading it but as I brought it home, I realized I'd never pondered what was the purpose of physical reality, especially from a spiritual perspective. So, after a few days, I found myself browsing through the first few pages. When I learned that it was written from a B'hai perspective, I continued to read, in part because I have a client who's a B'hai and I felt this book could help me be a more effective coach with him. So, one thing lead to another and before I knew it, I was really into the book. Now, it's not the easiest of reading, especially the section where he compares the B'hai perspective with such other notable perspectives as Plato, Job, and Milton. But hidden within these pages are some very interesting insights. I came away with a new appreciation and a deeper understanding of the B'hai faith. I would go so far as to say that B'hai

may be the cutting edge spiritual perspective of this age. It's inclusive, comprehensive and thought evoking. As is this book. It certainly gave me a deeper appreciation for the physical reality that we all are experiencing. I found it well worth the time to read and ponder.

Poet, philosopher, Bahai theologian, and English literature graduate studies director John S. Hatcher presents *The Purpose of Physical Reality*, a thoughtful discussion of theodicy particularly from the Bahai perspective, and the quest for metaphysical justice in a flawed physical world. Chapters address Hatcher's Bahai response to classic passages justifying God in Plato's "The Republic", The Book of Job, Boethius' "Consolation of Philosophy", and Milton's "Paradise Lost"; recommendations of physical reality "prenatal exercises for our second birth"; contemplations on Divine Sustenance and the Bahai concept of afterlife; and much more. A meditative exploration of the purpose of human existence in the physical world, especially if humans are considered to be spiritual beings, *The Purpose of Physical Reality* approaches challenging theological questions in a sedate, meticulous and serious-minded manner.

Awesome thought provoking book. Well worth the read.

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