

In 1999 an American movie called *The Matrix* was released, starring Keanu Reeves. The movie begins when the main character Neo is confronted by a man named Morpheus who offers to expose the deception that he has been living in and show him the truth about the world around him. Offering him a glass of water, Morpheus holds out two pills in front of him; one red pill and one blue pill. If he chooses to take the blue pill he will continue in his comfortable life under the illusion of a false reality, forgetting he ever met Morpheus. On the other hand, if he chooses to take the red pill, his eyes will be opened exposing the false reality around him and revealing the truth. When Neo chooses the red pill he discovers that there is a world taking place beyond his natural senses. Suddenly, the red pill opens his eyes and he is able to see the truth of what is taking place around him.

The term, 'the red pill' which came from this movie has become synonymous with finding the truth. The 'red pill' is symbolic of exposing deception, uncovering lies, and discovering truth. It represents a desire to know the truth at all cost, even if it means discomfort. On the other hand, the 'blue pill' represents willful blindness or deception. Today, the vast majority of the world has undoubtedly taken the blue pill. Many people don't care to know the meaning of this life. Like so many in the movie, they are content with their illusion of reality and they don't care to know anything else. They don't want to think about the meaning of life. They don't care if there is life after death. They don't care if God exists. They simply want to take the blue pill and live in their comfortable delusion. The tragedy is – their delusion is leading to death. So if you have no interest in the truth then you can ignore the rest, but for those who are interested in taking the red pill, keep reading.

I'm going to tell you what is going to happen. You can choose to believe it or not, but it is the truth. I know for a fact, because I have taken the red pill. My eyes have been opened. I have heard the voice of God and I know He is real. While some may say, "I don't believe in God

so this doesn't affect me," that would be like saying, "I don't believe the hurricane is going to come so it doesn't affect me." The fact that you don't believe it does not change the fact. I recently heard of a woman caught in the raging fire of Paradise, California. The entire city was on fire and the daughter begged her mother to leave, but the mother would not listen. She refused to believe the fire was a threat to her and she died in the fire. Similarly, the Bible says God is going to return and destroy the earth with fire. At that time "the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up" (2 Pet. 3:10).

While many refuse to believe in God, this will not stop the coming destruction and yet the Bible says that God is not "willing that any should perish" (2 Pet. 3:9). God does not want anyone to die. The problem is, the world has been inflicted with a terrible disease. Like some of the pandemics that strike the earth, sin has infected each of us. It is coursing through our veins and God has the antidote. God is the only one who has the cure. If you do not receive the cure then you must be destroyed in the fire. That's why it is so important for us to escape the deadly delusion that the world is under today. So many people have been led to believe that they are the offspring of apes. They think the universe magically exploded into existence, we are just alive by chance, and that there is no real meaning to life. This is a deadly delusion and yet many will not find out the truth until it is too late. This lifetime is your only chance to escape the final destruction. You have been given this one lifetime to find the cure to your disease, but if you fail to get this antidote now, when you die it will be too late.

The Bible tells us that "it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27). Again, you may not believe it, but that will not change the fact. No one knows when death comes. Who knows when God will say, "This night your soul will be required of you" (Luke 12:20)? While death comes to all, no one knows when their last day will be. Death takes

young and old suddenly. While some people may die slowly of disease, many die suddenly. You may be crossing the street and when a car suddenly strikes you. You may have convinced yourself that this life is all there is, or that after death your spirit will keep living, or some other delusional fantasy, but when I took the red pill I found that after death we rest in the grave until God raises us back to life at the end of the world. Death is simply like sleep. The Bible says "the dead know nothing" until they are raised back to life in the resurrection (Eccl. 9:5). At that time, they will face God and those who did not accept God will then be punished with eternal death, while those who accepted Jesus will receive the gift of eternal life.

The Bible says there are two resurrections. One resurrection is for those who accepted Jesus and lived a holy life, while the other resurrection is for those who rejected Jesus and lived an unholy life –telling lies, worshipping other gods, burning incense to idols, cheating people of money, gambling, getting drunk, stealing, having sex outside marriage or looking at pornography, using bad language and other things. Those who have refused to turn to accept God and turn away from sin will wake up from the grave only to find out the truth too late. Those who refuse to take the red pill will eventually find out the truth, but for them it will be too late. They will wake up to face God in the judgment, only to find out that they missed out on eternal life. What a horrible day to see all those who refused to accept God wake up and cry out, "We could have lived forever, but we missed out because we were too caught up in the sins of this lifetime." What a horrible cry will then swell across the earth.

No one knows when their last day is. So many people who died suddenly will one day rise to the horrible realization that they are lost, when they could have lived forever. They missed out on the greatest chance because they refused to believe. They had an entire lifetime to find God and they ignored Him. They refused to take the red pill. They refused to know the truth. Then, upon waking up, God will declare that they are

unfit for heaven. At that time, the prophecy says that “fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them” (Rev. 20:9). The good news is that no one has to die. God is giving us a chance to live forever. While all of us have been infected with the deadly disease of sin “and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death” (Jas. 1:15), Jesus came to earth to give us the antidote for sin. He made a way to escape the deadly disease of sin and He is offering the cure to you and me today. You can have peace with God. You don’t have to fear death. You can have the hope of eternal life, if you will only believe.

Death will come to everyone at some time, but those who have accepted Christ don’t have to fear death. We can have the hope of life beyond the grave. The good news is that you did not evolve from apes. Your life is not just a freak accident of nature. You were created by God and He has great plans for your life if you will only turn to Him. “‘I know the thoughts that I think toward you,’ says the LORD, ‘thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope’” (Jer. 29:11). If you want this hope, just say a prayer to God right now. Tell Him that you don’t want to die forever. Tell Him that you want Him to save you. Tell Him that you want to live forever and ask Him to show you the way. Even if you are unsure about God, say a prayer and ask Him to open your eyes, then get a Bible and read it, starting with the book of John. God says, “you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. I will be found by you” (Jer. 29:13). So what do you say? Are you ready to take the red pill? It’s in the Bible.

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# The Red Pill

Can you handle the truth?