

Animals I've known as personal FRIENDS



Scotty

River

Mandy



Jean & Panya



Suzy



Akela & Rakshi



Bratar



Banu



Molly Opossum



Oscar Otter
Zoe & Rory
and so many
others ...



Resources for further study

- search the GSI website



domestic animals I've known & loved
as close FRIENDS & will see again!

- Theologians who agree:
Graham, Criswell, Walvoord,
McGee, Van Impe, C.S. Lewis,
and many others
- "General Deliverance":
John Wesley's classic study on
Romans 8:19-22 & the
resurrection of God's animals.
- HEAVEN, by R. Alcorn
- more listed online
- PLEASE PRAY FOR US:**
* I'm writing a book on
this subject, & soon I'll
upload an initial article on
the website with
- ...LOTS of stories
about the many
wild, exotic, &

YES, your pets will go to Heaven!



MANDY the leopard who saved my life
SCOTTY my Service Dog Assistant
RIVER the raccoon that recued me

But,
will you
be there
with them & with their
CREATOR?

* JOHN 10 *

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Good Shepherd Initiative
Free Since 1983
*Just an old sheepdog of our
Good Shepherd Creator – Christ*
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YES your PETS will go to Heaven! →→

BUT THE REAL QUESTION IS →→

→ Will YOU be there with them?

PAST: His Creation was GOOD

SUFFERING & Survival of the Fittest are NOT God's Way!

God's original creation (even for HIS *nephesh* animals) was **NOT** the current, violent process of selfish competition, pain, fear, suffering, and death.

"... and to **every** beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to every creature that moves on the earth which has **life** [*nephesh*], I have given every **green PLANT** for **food**"; and it was so." Gen. 1:30

The freewill **sin** of man and angels caused a partial **separation** between our Holy Creator and His fallen creation, resulting in the **suffering** we all now endure.

"**Nephesh**" is the biblical Hebrew term for "soul" - meaning a creature that can **think and feel**. It's used for **BOTH** humans and *vertebrate* animals (Genesis 1:20-21; 2:7; 2:19; 9:12; 9:16, etc.). Yet, the Bible describes humans as being different - able to know God (Gen. 2-3) & responsible to choose rebellion or submission to His Way of unselfish love. Another term "**bara**" means to create something *new* that never existed before. It's used 3x's in Gen. 1 - 1st for the creation of **matter/energy**, 2nd for the special creation of **nephesh animals** (*NOT plants since they don't have nephesh - see below*), then 3rd for the special creation of **humans** in the image/character of God.

* Please note that **plants** and many other simple organisms like bacteria, sponges, and apparently many others, do not have the neurological or *nephesh* capacity even to think or feel. So they cannot suffer. They are like our modern mini-mechanical drones that engineers are now developing. Of course, God's bio-bots are organic, far more complex, and were originally designed to facilitate ecological harmony in His "very good" creation (Genesis 1:31). But some have devolved by mutation & now cause disorder and disease.

ORIGIN – How & why do you exist?

PRESENT: They matter to GOD

"Will our beloved pets be in Heaven?"

With tears of grief, many people ask me this question. It's a very personal question for me because as a youth and young adult my animal friends saved me from suicidal anxiety and depression many times. In fact, they helped lead me to God's love and a new life of peace and joy through the Good Shepherd, Christ.

CRUEL IS NEVER COOL

"ask the animals, they will **teach you**; ...that the hand of the **Lord** has done this? In his hand is the **soul** [*nephesh*] of every living thing & the breath of all mankind."

Job 12:7-10

"A **righteous person** **cares** for the life (*nephesh*=*soul*) of his animal, but the kindness of the **wicked is cruel**."

Proverbs 12:10

Graduate school, while completing a master's degree in psychology & counseling, sparked a 30 year study for me on what the Bible, theological scholars, & science say about animals, *souls*, and the *possibility* of life after death *for them*. Now, after three decades as a zookeeper, emergency veterinary assistant, rescuer & rehabilitator for the Dept. of Wildlife, Christian seminary-trained family counselor, Bible Study leader, & honors biology science teacher - I'm convinced the answer is clearly, **YES!**

The evidence (*especially in God's Word, the Bible*) shows that He will embrace HIS "*nephesh*" animals into HIS coming New Heaven and New Earth. This full "*gospel*" (*good news*) of Christ reveals our Creator's compassionate love and goodness to be infinitely better than most people realize!



SUFFERING – WHY, if God is "good"?

FUTURE: He's the Rescuer:

"For, I consider that the **sufferings** of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the **anxious** longing of the **creatures** [*animals*], waits eagerly for the revealing of the children of God [*at Christ's 2nd coming*]. For the **creature** was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the **creature** itself also will be **set free** from its **slavery to corruption** into the **freedom** of the glory of the children of God. For, we know that the whole **creation groans** and **suffers** the pains of childbirth together until now.

And not only them, but we also"

Romans 8:18-22

"... the **wolf** will lay down with the **lamb**
... the **lion** will eat **straw** like the **ox**
... they **will not hurt** or **destroy** in all my Holy Mountain, for the **Earth will be full** of the **knowledge** of the **LORD**."

Isaiah 11:6-10

THIS PAMPHLET IS ONLY A BRIEF INTRODUCTION:

If you want to examine MORE for yourself, then checkout the GSI website resources. If you have questions about anything, feel free to email me.



FUTURE – Where will you go after death?