Born to Die

It seems the basic instinct of humans is to survive. Parents are responsible for their children surviving until they are old enough to take care of themselves. But after that, the rest of life's decisions are based on how it affects our survival. Why? Because we all know the outcome if we don't survive. All of our decisions are then filtered by a self-centered survival view.

We all understand the importance of survival. Many who see someone in danger of not surviving will do anything they can to help them. But there are also those who care very little about others and will use them in evil ways to survive or gain power. The world becomes a mess of people with different motives trying to avoid the inevitable.

Is that all life is? Just live as best you can and then die? What if the God who made us offers an alternative to just "live and die"? What if there were a way to be born and *not* die? The funny thing is most people are not interested. They've gotten comfortable in their survival mode and don't want to rock the boat. C.S. Lewis uses the tin soldier analogy to explain this reaction:

> *"Imagine a tin soldier made of cold metal. What if someone could slowly turn that metal into real, warm, living flesh? At first, the tin soldier would fight it. He would think losing his hard tin form meant being destroyed; he likes the predictable stiffness of tin."*

The truth is, there is a way to be born and not die. We just need to let our creator turn our tin bodies into "living flesh." Plus, accepting the offer changes our mindset from "What's in it for me?" to "How can I best love others?" Assuming you believe in the God who created you, make sure you truly understand his love before turning down his offer. Exchange your dead-end life for a never-end life. (See *Why Believe?* and *A Way Out Now*.)

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