

## Life

**John 7:37-39** *In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. [38] He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. [39] (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)*

## Life and Death of man

**Life:** ( Heb: Chay) Gr;Zoe: is used in the NT "of life as a principle, life in the absolute sense, life as God has it, that which the Father has in Himself, that which makes man alive.

He gave this life to the Incarnate Son to have in Himself.

*John 5:26 For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;*

The Son manifested this life in the world

*1 John 1:2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)*

**Creation of man** Gen; 1;26-27, Gen 2;7, 1 Thess; 5;23.

God → Breath of life → SPIRIT.

Dust of the Ground → BODY.

Spirit + Body → SOUL.

The order in 1 Thess 5;23 is SPIRIT, SOUL,BODY.

*1 COR; 3;16* ; that you are God's temple and that God's spirit dwells in you

GOD'TEMPLE; HAS Three parts 1. Holy of Holies, 2.Holy place , 3. Outer court.Where God lives is the Holy of Holies.

Man's three parts are spirit, soul, and body.....where God lives and communicates in his spirit.

**SPIRIT;** The noblest part of man, occupies the innermost area of his being. This is the part Where God dwells. By the spirit we communicate with God and worship him. ( John; 4;24 ). Our spirit is the real life-giving part of us (*James 2:26 ; For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.* ) The spirit receives it orders from God and transmits it to the Soul. The Soul passes the Order to the Body and the Body obeys and exercises the spirit's order.

**SOUL** IS the organ of man's free will. What a man is depends on how his soul is. His soul represents him and expresses his individuality.

### THE SOUL

1. CAN will to obey God; and will allow the spirit to rule over man
2. CAN will to disobey God ; and will allow the body to rule over man.
3. CAN will to disobey God; and will suppress the spirit and it can rule over man.

To be a proper spiritual Man who has a proper communication with God (John 4; 24) and who is led by the Holy Spirit (*Rom; 8; 14*).....he should know the clear cut difference between the spirit and soul. The only way is *Heb; 4; 12*; THE WORD OF GOD. The word of God divides the soul and spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us the experience of this DIVISION.

In the Bible the word 'HEART' usually means Spirit and Soul together.

**BODY;** Is the part which we see and feel with flesh, blood, bone. Body is the Shell which houses the Soul and spirit..

### Fall of man

There were 2 important Trees in the Garden of Eden; *Gen; 2;9*.

1. Tree of. life. This is now in the Paradise of God *Rev; 2;7*.
2. Tree of the Knowledge of good and evil. This tree is later destroyed.

God's command in *Gen 2; 16. of every tree of the garden you may freely eat*

*but of the Tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.*

*of every tree of the garden you may freely eat* ( including the Tree of life...it was god's intention that man should eat the fruit of the Tree of life. *Gen 2; 22-24* ..only after he sinned, god made the Tree of life unapproachable to man. *Gen 2; 17.*)

*but of the Tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat*

But Adam disobeyed God, obeyed the Devil and ate the fruit.

### **Punishment for Disobedience**

*For in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.*

Surely die; The death warned here is Spiritual death. The consequences of the Spiritual Death are...

1. PHYSICAL DEATH      2. ETERNAL DEATH.

**Spiritual Death;** *Eph; 2; 1,5, Col; 2;13.* Separation from God. i.e ceasation of all communication between man's spirit and God.

**Physical Death;** *James 2;26, Math 8;22.* i.e ceasation of all communication between man's body and the world. Cessation of the presence of spirit in man's body.

**Eternal Death;** eternal separation from God. *Math; 10;28, Rev;21;8.*

So man is SPIRITUALLY DEAD and so PHYSICAL DEATH and ETERNAL DEATH followed.

This is how from God's life man has become alienated in consequence of the Fall

*Ephes. 4:18 Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:*

Again, men become partakers of this life through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

*John 3:15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.*

Jesus Christ is the author of this life to all who trust in Him.

*Acts 3:15 And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.*

Therefore Jesus is said to be 'the life' of the believer.

*Col. 3:4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.*

He maintains the life which He gives to the believer.

*John 6:35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.*

*John 6:63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.*

**Life = Connection between our spirit and God.**

**Death = Separation from God.**

**Eternal life= Eternal relationship with God.**

Man was created to "live" ( *Gen 1:28; 2:17* ). Death came through sin, *Rom 5:12*, which is rebellion against God. Sin thus involved the forfeiting of the "life." "The life of the flesh is in the blood," *Lev 17:11*.

Therefore the impartation of "life" to the sinner must be by a death caused by the shedding of that element which is the life of the flesh. "It is the blood that maketh atonement by reason of the life". The separation from God caused by the forfeiting of the "life" could be removed only by a sacrifice in which the victim and the offerer became identified. This which was appointed in the typical offerings in Israel received its full accomplishment in the voluntary sacrifice of Christ. The shedding of the blood in the language of Scripture involves the taking or the giving of the "life." Since Christ had no sins of his own to die for, His death was voluntary and vicarious, *John*

10:15 with Isa 53:5,10,12; 2 Cor 5:21. In His sacrifice He endured the divine judgment due to man's sin. By this means the believer becomes identified with Him in His deathless "life," through His resurrection, and enjoys conscious and eternal fellowship with God – the "life".

### **Jesus – the Life.**

*John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

*John 11:25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:*

### **Jesus – has Life.**

*John 5:26 For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;*

*John 1:4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.*

### **Jesus – the Bread of Life.**

*John 6:48 I am that bread of life. John 6:33 For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.*

*John 6:35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.*

*John 6:51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.*

Bread = Food and water. Physical food: That which develops, strengthens, nourishes and sustains the body and its relationship with the earth. Body is created from the "dust of the ground". Body is basically earthly. So naturally the nourishment of the body has to come from the earth. The earth has the physical life. The physical food has to come from the earth.

*Genesis 1:11-12 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so. [12] And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.*

*Genesis 1:24 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.*

Man and animals were originally created to eat the vegetation.

*Genesis 1:29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. 30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.*

After the fall, man and animals began eating each other.

Bread=Food and water. Spiritual food: That which develops, strengthens, nourishes and sustains the spirit and its relationship with God. Man's spirit came from God. Man's spirit is basically Godly. So naturally the nourishment of the man's spirit has to come from God.

### **Eating His flesh and drinking His blood**

*John 6:53-54 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. [54] Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.*

**Jesus is the "Life". He has life. He is the source of life.**

What does Jesus mean by "eating" His flesh and "drinking" His blood? He is not speaking in literal terms. In the verse 63 He clearly says, "The flesh profits nothing" (NKJV). What gives life? "It is the Spirit who gives life" (verse 63). "The words that I speak to you, they are Spirit, and they are life." **In other words, a person eats Christ's flesh and drinks His blood - that is, partakes of Christ and receives Him - by receiving the Word as taught by the Spirit.**

Jesus is the Living Word (*John 1:1-4*), and He was "made flesh" for us (*1:14*). The Bible is the written Word. Whatever the Bible says about Jesus, it also says about itself. Both are holy (*Luke 1:35 and 2 Tim 3:15*); both are Truth (*John 14:6; 17:17*); both are Light (*John 8:12; Ps 119:105*); both give life (*John 5:21; Ps 119:93*); both produce the new birth (*1 John 5:18; 1 Peter 1:23*); both are eternal (*Rev 4:10; 1 Peter 1:23*); both are the power of God (*1 Cor 1:24; Rom 1:16*). The conclusion is obvious: when you receive the Word into your heart, you receive Jesus Christ. We "eat His flesh" by partaking of the Word of God. "I am the living Bread," said Jesus in v. 51; and in *Matt 4:4* He said, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." Peter grasped the meaning of the sermon, for in *John 6:68* he said, "*To whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.*"

### **Jesus – the living water giver**

*John 4:10 Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.*

*John 4:13-14 Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: [14] But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. ( Rev. 21:6 ;Rev. 22:1-2 ;Rev. 22:17).*

In the Bible, water for cleansing symbolizes the Word of God (*John 13:1-17; 15:3 Eph 5:26*); **water for drinking represents the Spirit of God (*John 7:37-38*).**

Jesus never claimed "I am the living water", as He claimed "I am the bread of life". He always said like **"I will give this living water"** (*Matthew 3:11; John 1:31-33; 4:10 :4:13-14;7:37-38*)

Mankind needs air, water, food and light in order to have life. All of these are provided in Jesus Christ. He provides the "breath" (Spirit) of God (*John 3:8; 20:22*). He is the Bread of Life (*John 6:48*) and the Light of Life (*John 1:4-5*), and He gives us the water of life.

### **Rivers of Living Water**

*John 7:37-38 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. [38] He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.*

*39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)*

The feast was the **"feast of tabernacles"** (*John 7:2, Lev 23:34-43*). (feast of booths)

The last day, seventh day of the feast was a great day of celebration. (The eighth day was one of "solemn assembly" - *Lev 23:36; Num 29:35*). Each morning of the feast, at the time of the sacrifice, the priests would draw water in a golden vessel from the Pool of Siloam and carry it to the temple to be poured out. This commemorated the wonderful supply of water God gave the Jews in the wilderness. This seventh day was known as "The Great Hosannah" and climaxed the feast.

Christ was the Rock out of which the waters flowed (*Ex 17:1-7; 1 Cor 10:4*). He was smitten on the cross that the Spirit of life might be given to save and satisfy thirsty sinners. In the Bible,

water for cleansing symbolizes the Word of God (*John 13:1-17; 15:3*); water for drinking represents the Spirit of God (*John 7:37-38*).

Jesus was referring to the experience of Israel recorded in *Ex 17:1-7*. That water was but a picture of the Spirit of God. Believers would not only drink the living water, but they would become channels of living water to bless a thirsty world! The "artesian well" that He promised in *John 4:14* has now become a flowing river! While there are no specific prophetic Scriptures that indicate "rivers of water" flowing from the believer, there are a number of verses that parallel this thought: *Isa 12:3; 15; 32:2; 44:3; and 58:11; and Zech 14:8*. Note that *Zech 14:16* speaks about the future Feast of Tabernacles, when the Lord is King.

Just as water satisfies thirst and produces fruitfulness, so the Spirit of God satisfies the inner person and enables us to bear fruit. At the feast, the Jews were reenacting a tradition that could never satisfy the heart. Jesus offered them living water and eternal satisfaction!

If we have truly received Jesus into our hearts and this living well that comes with Him, then we don't have to be thirsty. We don't need to beg for more. We have to take advantage of what we have.

These rivers of living water are referring to the Holy Spirit and the effects He produces in the lives of believers. *Galatians 5:22-23* says that "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance." These qualities should flow out of us as an artesian well. They should not have to be pumped. They will flow as we conform our thinking to God's Word (*Proverbs 23:7; Isaiah 26:3; Romans 8:6, and 12:2*).

## ETERNAL LIFE

*John 3:16* says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Jesus came and died for our sins so that we wouldn't perish. As true as this is, this verse is saying that the real purpose of Jesus coming to this earth and dying for us was so that we could have everlasting life. It just so happened that our sins were a barrier that stood between us and this everlasting life. It is true that Jesus did die for our sins, and it is true that if we believe on Jesus, we will not perish, but there is much more to the Gospel than that. The real message of the Gospel is that God wants to give you everlasting life.

The night before His crucifixion, Jesus was praying, and He said this, "*This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ*" (*John 17:3*)

This says that everlasting life is **knowing** the Father, the only true God, and knowing Jesus Christ, whom He has sent. That's what everlasting life is. The word know has a deeper meaning in the Bible (*Genesis 4:1, 17, 19:8, 24:16; and Matthew 1:25; Luke 1:34*). It denotes an intimate relationship.

Many people think that everlasting life is living forever. That is one meaning. But that is not all. Every person lives forever. It's a misconception to think that when a person dies they cease to exist. The spirit and the soul go back to God. The body decays in the grave. The truth is, every person who has ever lived on the face of the earth will continue to live in spirit form. So to say that eternal life is living forever is not the whole truth—everybody lives forever. This verse makes it very clear that eternal life is not given to everyone.

Some people would say, "Eternal life is living forever in heaven versus living forever in hell." But eternal life is just what Jesus said in *John 17:3*—to know God and Jesus Christ. It's more than an intellectual knowledge. This word "**know**" is used throughout Scripture to describe the most intimate, personal relationship that you can have.

The real purpose of salvation is not living forever in heaven, as great as that will be. The real purpose of salvation is to have intimacy—a personal relationship with the Lord God. There are multitudes of people who have cried out to God for the forgiveness of their sins but have never had intimacy with God as a goal.

By not explaining the real purpose of salvation, we are doing a disservice to the Gospel. When we present salvation as something that deals with just spiritual things that will only benefit us in the future, in eternity, we are not helping people. There are some people who are living in such a literal hell right now on earth. Many are depressed, living in poverty, dealing with strife, rejection, hurt, and failed marriages. People are just trying to survive day to day. They are just trying to keep their heads above water. By making salvation something that deals only with the future, many people put off that decision because they are too busy just trying to survive today.

The truth is that Jesus not only came to affect our eternal destinies so that we can live forever in heaven in blessing instead of the punishment and curse of hell, but Jesus also came to deliver us from this present evil world (*Gal. 1:4*). Jesus came to give you intimacy and a personal relationship with God the Father today.

Jesus came to bring you back into close, personal relationship with Him. Jesus loves you. Jesus wants to know you personally. Jesus wants to give you a quality of life that is greater than anything you could obtain through any other source.

Jesus put it this way in *John 10:10*: “*The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly*” God wants to give everyone the eternal life. God wants to give the abundant life. Christ died not only to forgive our sins but to bring us close to him. If you don’t know the Lord, you need to know Him for that purpose. If you’ve already been born again, you need to go beyond just getting your sins forgiven and enter into everlasting life with the Father.

### **Facts about Eternal Life**

- A. The purpose of the Gospel is eternal life. (*John 3:16*).
- B. Eternal life is knowing God. (*John 17:3*).
- C. Knowing God is an intimate relationship. (*1 Cor. 6:16-17*).
- D. Eternal life is available now. (*1 John 5:12*).
- E. God wants a personal relationship with us. (*Rev. 3:20*).
- f. We have eternal life now (*John 3:36 : 6:54 5:24 10:28 :1 John 5:11:12; Rom 6:23 1 Tim; 6:12,19, 1 John 5:13* )

**Amen. Be blessed.**

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If you need any clarifications, if you have any doubts kindly contact me at [deeveekumar@yahoo.com](mailto:deeveekumar@yahoo.com) Ph: 968 25572195, 996635557.

**Resources;** The Bible Exposition commentary - New Testament, Wiersbe’s expository outlines-New Testament, Dakes bible commentary, Andrew Wommack Bible commentary, Vine’s Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words, The Biblical Illustrator (New Testament). Don krow’s Discipleship Evangelism Lessons. All Bible quotes are from King James Version.

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