

## ETERNAL LIFE

One of the mistakes that many Christians believe and it is taught in many churches is that eternal life is something we get after we die and go to heaven.

Eternal life is a quality of life; it is not speaking of living forever, but sharing in the same kind of life that is inherent in God. It is part of the very nature of God and permanently characteristic of it and involved in it. Eternal life is a partaking of the divine nature.

Eternal life is something we need to receive now, the bible says we must be born again. When we are born again we are born of the Spirit of God and receive God's life.

God's life is different than human life. The life of God is incorruptible. The reason that it is not being manifested in us is because of things in our heart that are blocking the flow of it.

*1 peter 1; 23 being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by (the channel of an act, through) the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.*

Eternal life is the life that God has inherent in himself. It is the divine nature; it is the fruit of the Spirit. And it is imparted to our spirit when it is born again and becomes alive to God. To be imparted means to give something a particular quality. To be imparted means to be communicated, to experience the knowledge of it.

*John 17:<sup>3</sup>And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*

Eternal life is knowing the Lord Jesus Christ, having a personal relationship with Him, where we are sharing in his thoughts, feelings, desires and attitudes. It is an intimate, knowledge that we experience when his life is flowing into our spirit.

When we are born again we receive the life of God which is different from our natural human life and it is called eternal life or the divine nature.

*1 john 1:2 For the life was manifested* (specific point past, to make apparent, or known, show openly, to make visible), *and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew* (occurring now, to announce, make known) *unto you that eternal life, which was with* (implying motion from a place. Figuratively it speaks of the source, or cause from which something proceeds. It Also expresses dependence or relation with someone) *the Father, and was manifested unto us;* *<sup>3</sup>That which we have seen and heard declare* (to announce that with which a person is charged) *we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship* (participation in a common life) *with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.*

The disciples saw the eternal life of God manifested in Jesus Christ for three and ½ years, and then after his resurrection he breathed into them and they received that life into their spirits.

*John 20: <sup>21</sup>Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on* (to blow or breathe into) *them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: <sup>23</sup>Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.*

Eternal life is something we experience when our spirit becomes alive to God, but we don't experience it fully, until the areas of our soul life or human life that are blocking its expression, are removed from our heart.

*John 12: <sup>23</sup> And Jesus answered them, saying, the hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Verily, verily, I say unto you, except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. <sup>25</sup> He that loveth his life (psuché-soul) shall lose it; and he that hateth his life (psuché-soul) in this world shall keep it unto (the primary idea of motion into any place or thing) life (Zoë) eternal. <sup>26</sup> If any man serve me, let him follow (command for continuous action, akolouthéō- 1- together-expressing union, likeness 2- a way-going in the same way) me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.*

It is a principle of nature that if you take a particular seed, whether it is wheat or corn or some other seed, and you put it into the ground at sowing time, in the right conditions it will die, but by dying it will spring forth to become a plant and reproduce itself hundreds of times over.

The seed on the new plant is identical in every way to the seed that died. It has exactly the same genes; it has exactly the same DNA. If you take one of those seeds on the plant and plant it again it will reproduce just like the first seed did.

For 3 1/2 years Jesus demonstrated the eternal life of God. Now he was going to die in order that his life may literally be reproduced millions of times over. So for this to take place, his death has to occur. But we also see another death in these verses that must take place, his death but also ours. When Jesus died on the cross, the whole human

race died with him, but we have to open our heart to him in order to experience it.

In the Greek language there are 3 words for life. There is bios which is physical life, there is psuché- which is soul life and there is Zoë which is the spiritual eternal life of God.

Now in this particular verse, verse 25 Jesus says this, if you love your soul life, you will lose it. But if you hate your soul life in this world, you will exchange it for the very eternal life of God.

There were certain Greeks that came to Philip and said, sir we would see Jesus, and Philip told this to Jesus *john 12:<sup>23</sup> And Jesus answered them, saying, the hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified*

He did not go out and try to meet the needs of the Greeks before he died. He had a much better plan. By his death on the cross he could release the very seed of his own glorious eternal life. We are told in several places it is the incorruptible seed of God. The very DNA, the genes, of God is in that seed.

Now spiritually, every one of us has a womb. And God can take the seed of his very own son and plant it in the womb of our spirit, and from the day of conception, the fullness of Jesus is in that seed. It is right there in the seed. The full-grown man or adult is there in the seed. And all that we have to do is to feed it and nurture it, and die out to the things in our soul life that are blocking it and then the fullness of Jesus will grow up to fill each one of us. This is Jesus' answer.

If we don't treat this seed properly, it will never grow to maturity. We cannot have two life's growing at the same time in the same space. If we maintain our self life, it will choke off the Jesus life. If we kill the

self life (deny ourselves) give it no expression, it makes room for the Jesus life to fill our whole personality.

Now it is still us, and it is still our personality, but it is the eternal life of Jesus coming through us without any corruption whatsoever. And as a result, instead of 1 Jesus, many Jesus's will begin to appear all over the earth.

But we have to die out to our self life and no longer do our own thing, but allow a total complete takeover of our whole personality by that living Christ, then all over the place many Jesus's will begin to appear.

Verse 25 if anyone serves me, let him follow me. This word follow comes several times. The Greek word is the word *akolouthéō*. The English word is mimic, to exactly copy. In order to do this the eyes of our spirit have to be open to see what God is doing. The ears of our spirit have to be opened to hear what God is saying to us personally. And this is the fruit of our spirit being born again, to be able to see the kingdom and enter into the kingdom now. The kingdom is a spiritual dimension of the government of God, where his Spirit is controlling us through our participation in it.

To mimic a person we have to start doing everything that they do. We would try our best to be exactly like them. Jesus said if you mimic me, if you do exactly what I am doing, live exactly the same way that I am living then this seed in you will be as powerful and glorious as it is in me. The life that is flowing through me will flow through you. And the things that I do, you will do. So instead of crowds and crowds of people fighting and shoving to try and get near to Jesus, there will be thousands of Jesus's all over the world, and the multitudes can easily find him.

We have to get the seed of God's son so planted in us that we begin to be Jesus in our own situation, so that people only have to get near us and Jesus will be able to minister to them, they don't have to go anywhere else.

If anyone serves me, let him mimic me so that where I am there my servant may be also. Jesus had a life of intimacy with the father. The father and son had perfect fellowship together. The father had total control of Jesus's personality. The father had complete access to Jesus's body.

Jesus never spoke a word except it was the father's word. He never did an action except it was the father's action. Jesus said now if you will follow me, if you will mimic me, if you live the way that I am living, then you can see the same eternal life flowing through you that was flowing through me.

This is God's plan for our lives, he is raising up a generation of harvesters (a Joshua generation) and we are about to see what the nature and power of God can do through us when we totally die out to the flesh (that union of soul and body that acts independently of the Lord) and give our personality to him. We literally give him our humanity.

We lose our soul, and then in our humanity he lives as comfortably as he did in his own physical body when he was on the earth. Through our body he can do the same things he was doing through his own body, and even greater because we are patterned after his resurrection, not his earthly ministry.

Through our humanity he can show himself in the same way that he did in the humanity he had on earth. In this way there becomes many, many Jesus's walking around on the earth.

It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And this faith is the faith of the Son of God. the faith of God has to do with sonship.