

# What is Life?

By Zach Henry

4/20/2011

Some people like to ask the question, “What is the meaning of life?” I hear this question now and then, and before I started putting together this invitation, my answer would’ve been “Live a good life, obey and love God, and strive to get to Heaven.” Is this true? Is it false?

People of the world would shoot down this theory. They would say, “If we are not physically alive in heaven, why should we waste our physical life on earth, attaining something that isn’t worth living for?” Without the physical and earthly lusts in Heaven, without gold and money, and without the ability to indulge ourselves with earthly pleasures – what makes heaven so great? To them, Earth is a paradise where they can live out their lives in sin. They are content with earth and earth alone.

Tonight, I want to go beyond the question of “What is the meaning of life?” Instead, I want to ask an even more direct question.

## ***What IS life?***

Before we can answer that, we must all be on the same page. We must believe that the Word of God is truth, and that from it we can answer this question. If we all believe in the Word then this question can be answered.

### **1) It is the breath of God**

- Genesis 2:7 ; Job 33:4
- Man was not alive, until God breathed into him the breath of life.
- From God we **receive** life.

### **2) It fills the body in which we live**

- Proverbs 14:30
- Our life (and the state of it) is dependent upon the way we live.
- If we are envy and sinful, it is rottenness to our bones.
- But, having a sound heart is **life** to the body.

### **3) It is our link to God**

- Deuteronomy 30:15-16 ; 19-20
- Cling: 1) To remain emotionally attached. 2) To hold fast or adhere to something, as by grasping, sticking, embracing, or entwining: clung to the rope to keep from falling; fabrics that cling to the body. 3) To remain close; to resist separation.
- God is our life, and the soul he has implanted within us (his breath of life), is what identifies us as his creation. When the length of our days ends, it won’t be our physical body that God will judge, but our spiritual soul.

So life is the physical body. But, more importantly it is the breath of life, otherwise known as, our **soul**. But, our soul is spiritual. Physical life is not what it needs. It needs spiritual/eternal life.

### So how can we obtain eternal life?

#### 1) We must obey and love God

- Mark 10:17-22
- This man went away sorrowful because his life was the riches and earthly treasures he possessed. Jesus knew this, and so he put forth a test for this young ruler. If he would love Christ and obey his commandments, setting him as a higher priority than his earthly wealth, Jesus would offer him eternal life.
- Unfortunately, as with so many of us, we get caught up in life and don't take hold of the opportunities that God presents to us.
- Luke 10:25-28
- We must love the Lord with all of our being, if we hope to obtain eternal life. Nothing else will suffice in the eyes of God. He sent his Son to die on the cross FOR US, he expects us to sacrifice our lives in return, by serving him.

#### 2) We must believe in Jesus Christ

- John 3:16-17
- In Christ we must believe.
- He is our mediator (1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 2:5 – “For *there is* one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus.”).
- John 20:24-31
- Jesus blesses those who were unable to see him during his time on earth, but still believe in his name. If we believe in him, he will grant us eternal life.

#### 3) We must Repent of our sins/Be Baptized and wash away the Old Man of Sin

- Isaiah 59:2
- Sin has separated us from God. It is a barrier **between** us and eternal life.
- In order to be received back into His fold, we must first **repent of our sins**.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:9 – “The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”).
- We must also be baptized, washing away the Old Man of Sin.
- Romans 6:5-6 ; Acts 22:16

If we do these things, God promises us that we will obtain eternal life in Heaven. For now, we are undergoing a trial period here on Earth, to decide whether we will receive eternal life, or eternal death. One of the above will be our reward for the life we have led. I don't know about you, but life sounds a lot better than death. It is our choice. God has given us the rules and a guideline to live by, but we must choose which path we will take.

Matthew 7:13-14 –Will you live a life pleasing unto God? It's up to you. Come, as we stand and sing.