

Eternal Life

3-6-22

e·ter·nal - lasting or existing forever; without end or beginning!

1 John 5:11–13 (ESV)

¹¹ And this is the testimony, that God gave us **Eternal Life**, and this (eternal) **Life** is in his Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has (eternal) **Life**; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have (eternal) **Life**. ¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have **Eternal Life**.

Eternal Life is a present spiritual reality existing forever; without end or beginning. Eternal Life was before Creation and Eternal Life will continue after the world is destroyed.

All humanity is physically alive but spiritually dead and separated from God. God's Son Jesus embodies the totality of Eternal Life. He who has the Son has Eternal Life. He who is without the Son does not have Eternal Life. Since Eternal Life is without end or beginning, it is currently present. We move from death to Eternal Life by trusting Jesus. This is not an idea nor a system of belief; it is a Person. *That Person is Jesus Christ.* We step into Eternal Life by receiving Jesus. Eternal Life only comes through Jesus!

John 14:6 (ESV)

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through ME."

An absolute truth is that everyone dies. Thus, one of humanities greatest fears is death. We as Christians have good news because we have the answer to one of the world's greatest fears.

John 17:3 (ESV)

And this is **Eternal Life**, that they know YOU, the only true God, and **Jesus Christ** whom YOU have sent.

This is Eternal Life! Knowing God and Jesus is the only real revelation we have of Eternal Life! Jesus came to earth, died, was resurrected appeared to multitude of people then ascended to heaven where HE is still alive seated at the right hand of God. Jesus constitutes Eternal Life.

Not only is Eternal Life endless, but it exists in an eternal dimension. Eternal Life is active involvement with a lasting environment; death is the cessation of any hope to be involved with that living environment. The Apostle Paul saw heaven, the eternal living environment. Paul says that he was caught up into the third heaven, caught up into paradise, and saw things that could not be repeated. Years later Paul said, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better." Paul who had a glimpse of the fulness of Eternal Life with its surrounding eternal dimension longed to be there. We are called to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ to be saved and experience Eternal Life. Jesus said:

John 8:51 (ESV)

Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps MY WORD, he will never see death.

We will never see death. We have Eternal Life. This is God's will. God invited us and made a way through Jesus Christ. Eternal Life comes by a personal invitation.

John 15:16 (ESV)

You did not choose ME, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit

We were chosen. We were claimed as God's peculiar people. Jesus expected that we would fulfill HIS purpose and that our work would be enduring. Jesus spoke to God about HIS disciples and all those who would come to believe afterwards.

John 17:6 (ESV)

I have manifested YOUR NAME to the people whom YOU gave ME out of the world. YOURS they were, and YOU gave them to ME, and they have kept YOUR WORD.

God is active in our salvation and the evidence of Eternal Life is that we keep God's Word. Jesus said, "I will build my church." Jesus expected that through the ministry of the Spirit that HIS disciples would continue offering the invitation of Eternal Life to others.

I love how the Book of Revelation ends.

Revelation 22:17 (ESV)

The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

This invitation is by the Holy Spirit and every member of the church to those outside the church. *Whoever is thirsty, let him come.* People are becoming insensitive to sin, but they still desire purpose and eternal life which only comes by giving one’s life to Christ.

Eternal Life can only come by the invitation of the one and only God manifested by the one and only Jesus Christ. This invitation comes via God’s chosen people.

John 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that HE gave his only Son, that whoever believes in HIM **should not perish but have eternal life.**