

*Chapter 5

Eternal Life Is What? When? Where?

* Jesus' Last Will and Testament ~ John 17

Jesus prays for himself: John 17:1-6

1. These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:
2. As thou has given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.
3. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.
4. I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.
5. And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.
6. I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.

Jesus prays for his disciples: John 17:7-19

7. Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee.
8. For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.
9. I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.
10. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.
11. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.
12. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.
13. And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.
14. I have given them thy word: and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.
15. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.
16. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.
17. Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.
18. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.
19. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

Jesus prays for all believers: John 17:20-26

20. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word.
21. That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.
22. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:
23. I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.
24. Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovest me before the foundation of the world.
25. O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou has sent me.
26. And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou has loved me may be in them, and I in them.

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Eternal life is what, when and where?

John 17:3

“And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”

2 Peter 1:3

“According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge...[of God]”

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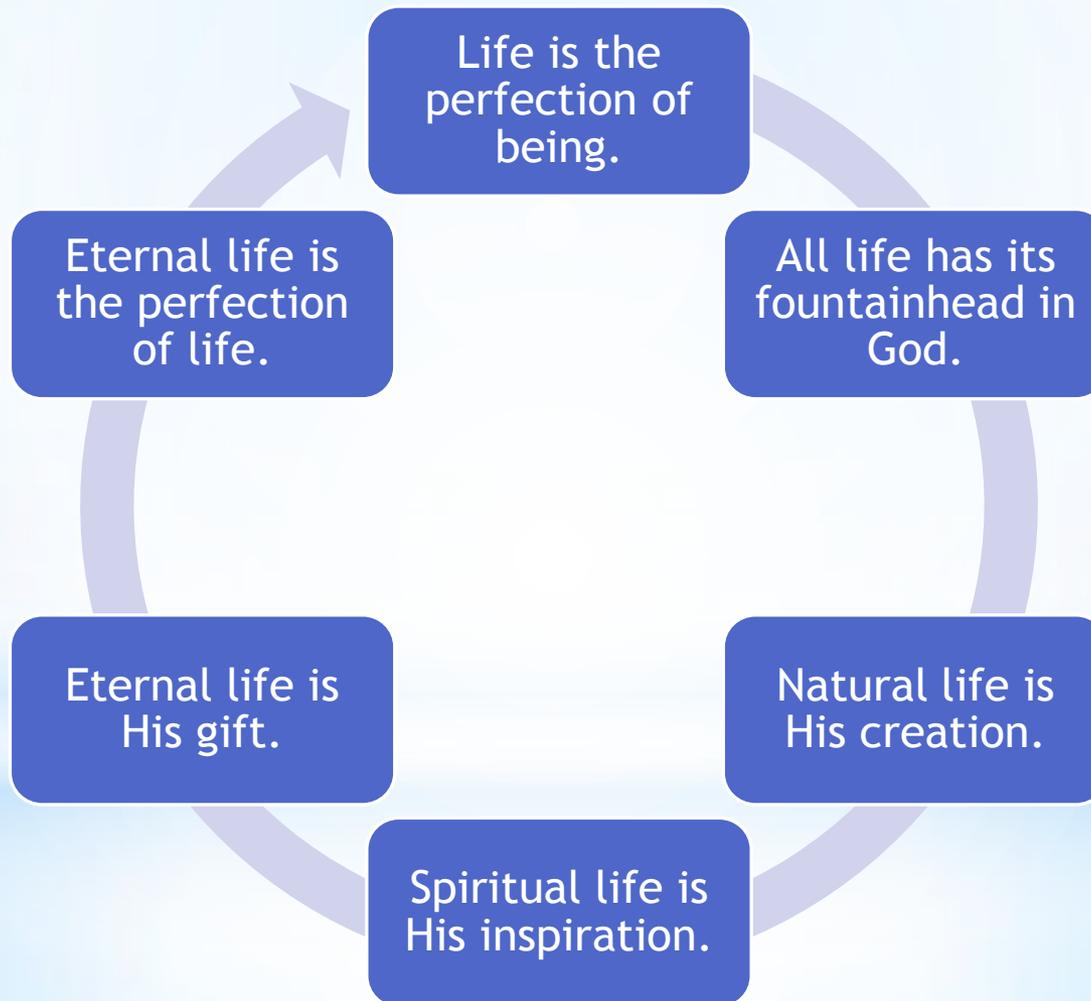
So far in Jesus' prayer of John 17 ...

- Jesus expresses his desire for Father God to glorify him so he can glorify his Father
- Jesus speaks of the unlimited power over all flesh given to him that he might give eternal life to as many as the Father has given him.
 - Flesh - all of mankind
 - Flesh - the depraved principles and faculties of our fallen nature
- Eternal life consists in the knowledge of God.
 - This knowledge includes the new birth
 - This knowledge includes the progressive work of an intimate relationship with the Godhead.

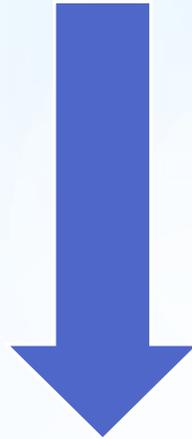
Please read John 6:26-70

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Marcus Rainsford writes:



* Jesus' Last Will and Testament ~ John 17



Life

As all life flows from God, so is it supported and maintained by God.

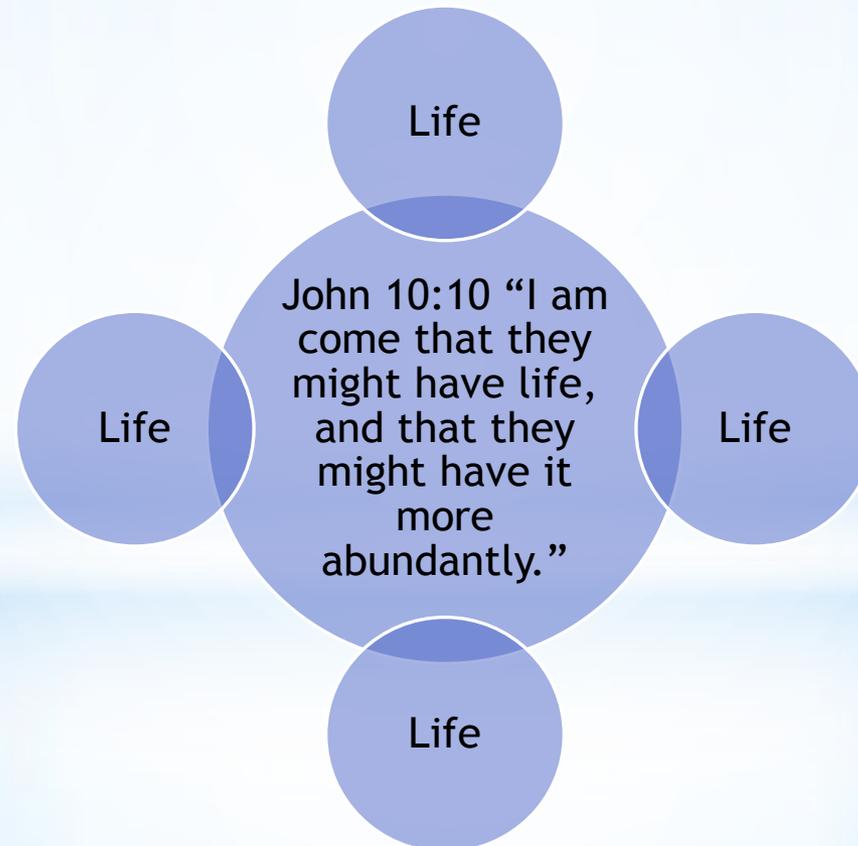


Life

* Jesus' Last Will and Testament ~ John 17

Spiritual growth and maturity flows from a relationship with the Godhead -

- by maintaining a daily communion with Elohiym
 - by a consistent and sincere study of God's Word and
 - by prayer.



* Jesus' Last Will and Testament ~ John 17

Eternal life
is redeemed
mankind's
inheritance.

It is the gift of God's Love.

It is the end of Christ's coming.



It is the fruit of the indwelling
power, energy, and operation of Holy
Spirit revealing Jesus revealing
Father.

* Jesus' Last Will and Testament ~ John 17

Eternal life is not a human ability but is “hid with Christ in God”.

Colossians 3:3

* Jesus' Last Will and Testament ~ John 17



Eternal life is

immeasurable



Eternal life is

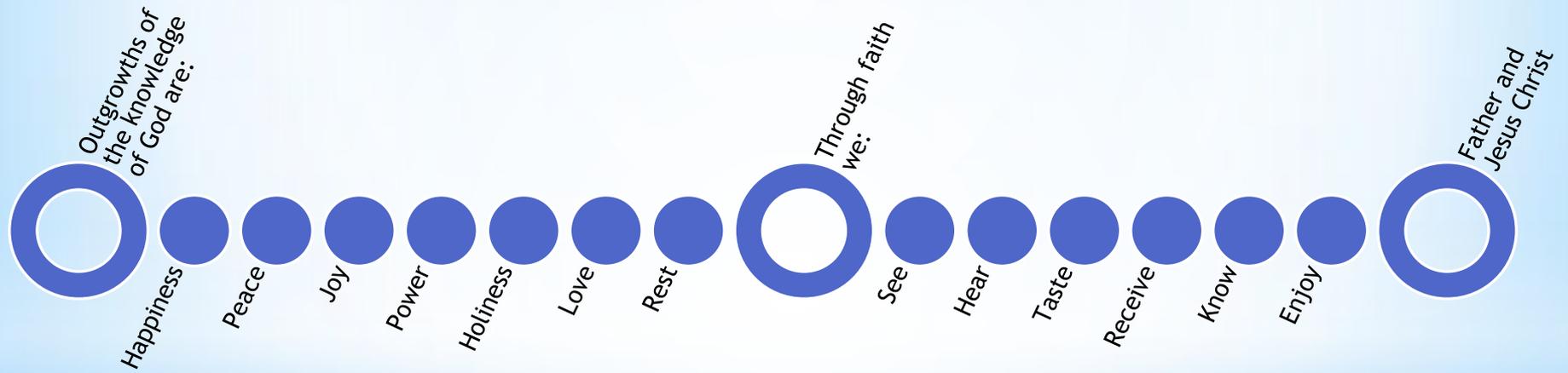
incalculable



Eternal life is

eternal

* Jesus' Last Will and Testament ~ John 17



* Jesus' Last Will and Testament ~ John 17



Ephesians 4:18

“Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them...”

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Another kind of knowledge is the knowledge of evil.

Genesis 2:16-17

“And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.”

When Adam and Eve, in disobedience, ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, it ushered in the knowledge of evil, condemnation, and eternal death.

Before this incident, Adam and Eve enjoyed good things. God walked and talked with them in the Garden. He was their bountiful good.

Now, we have both the knowledge of good and of evil.

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Because of Jesus Christ the Messiah...

- The GOOD knowledge of salvation is available.
- The GOOD knowledge of eternal life is available.
- The GOOD knowledge of the impartation of the divine nature of God is possible.
- The GOOD knowledge of the exousia authority and the dunamis power are available through Holy Spirit.
- The GOOD knowledge of the great and precious promises of God is ours.
- The GOOD knowledge is most desirable! Wouldn't you say!!!

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May you get this Scripture in your spirit:

2 Peter 1:2-4

“Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, according as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

This is an inner working leading one to spiritual maturity.

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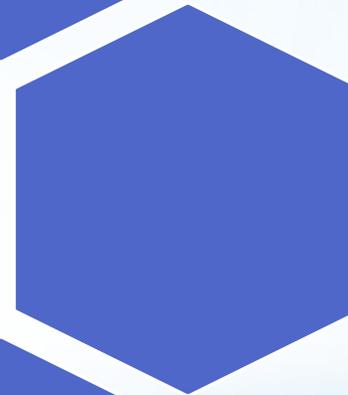
Continually be led by Holy Spirit...

Pray in tongues...



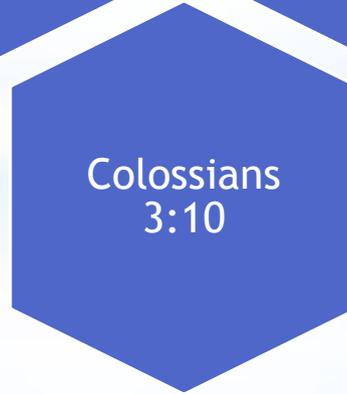
“That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him.”

“And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment...”



*Study the Word
Clothe yourself inside
and out with it...*

Pray Scriptural prayers...



“And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him...”

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What are some of your thoughts on eternal life?

How many have thought that eternal life begins after one leaves this earth and gets to heaven? For years and years, before I studied the Scriptures, I thought that it started when I died.

Some of those reasons were?

I equated eternal life to heaven.

I didn't understand how a Christian family that struggled with abuse, violence, divorce, rebellion, drugs, alcohol, etc. could be living in eternal life - heaven.

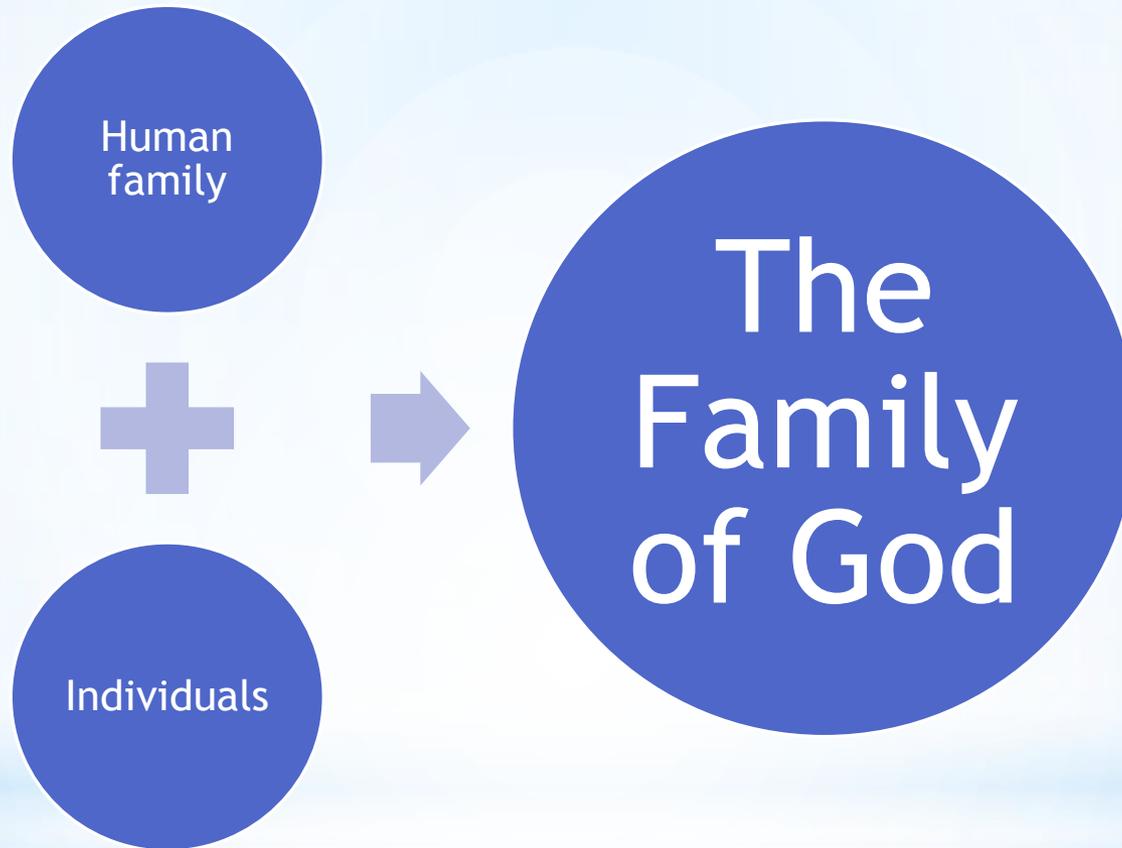
Now, I know that we are eternal beings. Meaning, when Holy Spirit blew that first breath of life into me as a baby, I became a living human being with an eternal spirit and soul. (Yes, I believe conception begins life in case you are wondering - not to confuse it with your first breath.)

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So, how does this play out?

- ✓ First of all, we ALL were planned by the Godhead before time existed.
- ✓ Secondly, the conception of the human embryo is the reality of an eternal being.
- ✓ Thirdly, the future of that new creation will continue either in the good eternity (heaven) or in the evil eternity (hell).
- ✓ Fourthly, the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ opens the door for the good eternity now and in the future.
- ✓ And fifthly, the progression of knowing Father-God and Jesus Christ replaces and transforms the old, sinful Adamic nature we are born with.

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Because Jesus' finished work on earth facilitated Father God having a family, the family scene is probably the most attacked by the kingdom of Satan. The body of Christ is Father's family. The similitude of the human family and Father God's family is striking. Satan, who was once in God's heavenly family, hates and wants to destroy God's family here on earth!

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In closing... Jesus chose the Hebrew (now Israeli) people to establish His earthly family.

As Jesus was praying the prayer of John 17 the disciples were listening to his words proclaiming that God was the only true God and that he (God) had sent Jesus Christ.

The disciples, having chewed their teeth on the Hebraic teachings of the Torah and prophets, knew if this were true, that this Jesus could possibly be the promised Messiah!

This had to be the greatest rush they had ever experienced! Could it be, this one they had walked and ministered with for three years?

In their culture you never said the word YHVH! A substitute word or words were used, such as, Adoni or G_d or Elohiym. Yet, they had shared many a conversation with him. They had lived day to day with him. Yes, Jesus the Messiah!

He who was always UP THERE!!! Was suddenly HERE!!!

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Next week:

Chapter 6

The Kingdom of Heaven Is Like Unto

Please read this chapter.