

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” (2Cor 5:17)

We understand that faith, trust and believe are dealing with the same issue of knowing by experience that which is true, which is to be born is to receive life, so to be in Christ is to have the life of Christ in us fully and perfectly. Our bodies then begin to produce new attitudes and behavior not because we are Christians, but because Christ is living in us.

Two Masters

“No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.” (Matt 6:24)

There are only two masters that exist in the universe. There is self and there is God. If Self rules, then SIN and DEATH are the result and if God rules then Righteousness and everlasting life are the natural consequence of such a life in which God lives.

A Time of Probation

Do you recognize that our lifetime is really a probation period to choose God? We have been given a period of life to choose another master than ourselves or remain king of our own lives and reap the consequence of eternal death. It is the plan of God to suspend the sentence of eternal death and place us on probation. *“Probation is the suspension of a sentence of a convicted person for a period.”*

Let us use our probation right and make the correct decision to choose God and allow him to perform the miracle of the new birth in us and give us the new life of Christ Jesus, then he will live his life in us and make us a show piece to the world, real true Christians in nature and character. May your hearts be drawn by him to this reality!

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Whose life do you have?

You may be thinking, what a silly question. I have my life, but stop for a moment and consider, “Where did you get your life?”

Well from my parents of course! “Where did your parents get their life?” Now if you follow the question all the way through, it takes you back to the very first parents, Adam and Eve. In fact when you check the Bibles account, life was given to ONE man Adam, and so all humanity got life from him, even eve came out of him. (Gen 2:21-23)

So God made only ONE life (Acts 17:26) and every human being born upon this earth has received this same life. Even though life is indescribable yet when it is present we know we are alive because of our functions.

The kind of life

What kind of life do you have? Well if you said human life, then you would be correct! We are humans because we have human life. What is the condition of our human life? Since all life came from Adam then the condition of our life depends on the condition of Adam’s life. *“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.”*

Rom 5:12

This verse tells us that ONE man Adam sinned and death was the natural consequence, and so by passing on HIS life to others he has passed SIN to others and so DEATH passed to ALL MEN because we all received Adam’s life of sin! We are all sinners because of the kind of life we received. (Rom 3:23)

A New Life

“Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.” (Rom 5:18)

What we just read tells us the truth about the life we received from the first man Adam, and in the same way we received Adam’s life we can receive the Righteous life of Christ. This life is a gift!

“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Rom 6:23)

This verse brings a contrast to the hopeless condition of SIN and its natural consequence which is DEATH. There is the mention of a gift of GOD and this gift is Eternal (Never ending) life. In other words God's gift abolishes DEATH eternally. Why does God offer such a gift? *"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."* (Jn 3:16) *"God is love"* (1Jn 4:8)

Seeing the degradation to which man was brought based on his decision, God in his love made another way so that man could make another decision and be saved from death. This could only be done by man choosing on his own volition another life where the consequences of the first life is cancelled.

Two Lives

"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." (1Cor 15:22)

There are two men, who provide two lives, and these two lives have two distinct qualities, one has death working in it while the other possesses the power to destroy death.

The life of Adam is passed on by the process of reproduction and we received this life when we were born. How do we receive the life of Christ?

A man had a conversation with Jesus and Jesus told him he had to be born again, because of his misunderstanding Jesus told him what it means to be born again.

"Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." (Jn 3:5)

Notice that to be born of water, (the same thing we call baptism) is not enough, except we are born of the Spirit.

To be born of the Spirit is a supernatural experience; this is a work of God and is performed on and in the heart of the individual.

There is a clear distinction with those born of the flesh and those born of the Spirit.

"That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." (Jn 3:6) So flesh people can't be Spirit and Spirit people can't be flesh, you are either one or the other.

The key to this miracle is to believe. Jesus say, *"whosoever believeth in HIM should not perish, but have everlasting (never ending) life."*

What are you to believe?

"And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son." (1Jn 5:11)

Believing is not just a mental consideration, but an actual experience that affects the life. "You don't rule your belief, your belief rule you." You don't even have to state your belief your very life tells of your belief in an undeniable way. If a man begins to visit a lady very often and is spending much time with her, he doesn't have to say he loves her, it would have been said by his constant visits. The same is true about our living, because the words of Jesus are true, *"By their fruits ye shall know them."* (Matt 7:21)

Receiving Jesus' Life

"Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God..." (1Jn 5:1) When we are born we receive the life of our parents, in the same way when we are born of God we receive the life of God.

Human life produces human behavior. Sinful evil thoughts fill our mind and naturally the body becomes servant of our nature and produces sinful and evil actions.

God's life produces God-like behavior. Pure and perfect thoughts fill our minds and naturally our action shows the proof of God's life.

"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" (Rom 6:16)

We are servants of the master we serve, and our bodies flow in accordance with our nature.

"Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." (1Jn 3:9)

Here is a verse that tells us of the fruit of the life of those that are born of God. They do not live lives apart from God, because that is sin, they live according to the life of God and the reason is that the seed of God remains in them and they cannot live apart from the Spirit which is the seed of God. The Spirit of God (the seed of God) remains in them and directs their life. (Jn 16:13)

The new behavior is not produced by an effort to do good or right, but by the natural means of birth which is the miracle of the Spirit living in us and producing good naturally.