



"I am come that they might have LIFE and have it more abundantly." (John 10:10)

LIFE AND DEATH

RAISING THE DEAD

Biological "life" is recognized by everyone, young and old. But does the Bible make reference to "life" in an additional way? A way that transcends biological life?

1. *And you who were dead in trespasses and your sins in which you once walked ...*
4. *But God, being rich in mercy, through his great love with which He loves us,*
5. *And we who were dead in trespasses, He makes us alive in Christ - by grace you are saved;*
6. *And He raises us up together, and seats us together in the heavens in Christ Jesus:*

(Ephesians 2:1-5)

Paul wrote these words to the ecclesiastics in Ephesus who were "alive" ... but they had apparently been "dead" at one time. How does that work? What did Paul mean? Was he saying that their hearts had stopped beating ... and then started beating again? Had they been raised out of physical graves and restored to biological life? No, that is not what Paul meant.

But he DID say that they had been "dead" - but he was not talking about physical death. However he was talking about an absence of "life." But what kind of "life?"

The kind of "life" Paul referred to was not merely a beating heart and breathing lungs. Paul was talking about **SPIRITUAL LIFE**.

At some point in the past these Ephesians had been spiritually "dead." They had been lacking LIFE. A specific kind of "life" - **EONIAN LIFE** (life of the age).

Eonian life is a Bible term that most people do not know.

EONIAN LIFE IS NOT BIOLOGICAL LIFE

Lets examine the term. "Eon" = "age." "Eonian" means "of an age." "Eonian life" is "life of an age." So the next question is ... what age? And how is it associated with "life"?

That "eon" is one in which Christ gives his disciples "NEW LIFE." It is an age of **spiritual life**.

1. *There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a chief of the Judeans:*
2. *He came to Jesus by night, and said to him, Master, we know that you are a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that you do, except God be with him.*
3. *Jesus answered and said to him, Verily, verily, I say to you, Except a man be born from above, he cannot see the Kingdom of God.*
4. *Nicodemus said to him, How can a man be born when he is old? He is not able to enter a second time into his mother's womb, and be born.*
5. *Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say to you, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he is unable to enter into the Kingdom of God.*
6. *That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the spirit is spirit.*
7. *Marvel not that I say to you, You must be born from above.*

John 3:1-7

Here Jesus clearly refers to two different births - one of flesh, and one of spirit. Two different births - two different kinds of life.

Jesus said:

63. *It is the spirit that is giving life; the flesh profits nothing: the words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.*

John 6:63

Jesus taught about a form of 'life' that is more than biological. A higher form. A life that defines you. He called it "life" - "eonian life." Church versions of the Bible don't explain this. The life is "eonian" and it indicates a mental awareness. An awakening. A vitalization of eyes and ears. But Futurist church theologians and translators were blind - and the blind lead the blind into the ditch.

The truth is that Jesus was imbuing his disciples with the gift of insight and spirit. Jesus (the Logos) was communicating "life" to them. That means He also communicates "life" to us. This is the affect that God's truth has on people. It puts "LIFE" into us.

This is what Paul meant when he was explaining to the Ephesians that God loved them and was giving them LIFE through his Son - the "LOGOS" (COMMUNICATION). Jesus said *"If the Son makes you free, you shall be FREE INDEED."* Free of blindness. Free of spiritual death.

Centuries earlier Moses said this:

15. *See, I have set before you this day LIFE and good, and DEATH and evil;*

16. *In that I command you this day to love Yahweh your God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that you may LIVE and multiply: and Yahweh your God shall bless you in the land where you go to possess it.*

19. *I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you LIFE and DEATH, BLESSING AND CURSING; therefore CHOOSE LIFE THAT BOTH YOU AND YOUR SEED MAY LIVE:*

Deuteronomy 30:15-19

It is imperative that you understand this! Moses was speaking to people who needed "LIFE."

"LIFE" is God's animating spiritual **gift** to you! You must, by all means, understand "life." What it means. What it does for you. Otherwise you cannot realize or appreciate God's message of life. Nor can you grasp the significance of why Jesus is hated by a dead world. Those who choose death hate those who choose life

To be ignorant of LIFE is to be without life. How can you have this gift of life if you don't know what it is? Furthermore, how can you understand Christ's teaching about the multitudes that are walking around "dead" and unaware of God's gift of life?

4. *But God, being rich in mercy, through his great love wherewith he loves us,*

5. *An we, who were dead in sins, are made alive together with Christ, (by grace you are saved;)*

6. *And He raises us up together, and sets us together in the heavens in Christ Jesus:*

Ephesians 2:4-6

This is not our physical life. It is the blind receiving sight. It is EONIAN LIFE - Jesus (the COMMUNICATOR) causing the blind to see. *"The blind see, the lame walk, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, good news is proclaimed to the poor"* - Luke 7:22

Jesus "quicken" the dead by giving them truth. The Greek word for this miracle is "anastasis" ("raised up"). Christ's truth was raising them to a new, higher life. "Anastasis" was raising them to a higher awareness; higher motivation (spirit - "pneuma").

8. *Why should you think it incredible that God raises the dead?*

Acts 26:8

20. *... I call you here, to see you, and to speak with you: because for the hope of Israel (new life) I have been bound with this chain.*

Acts 28:20

The Jews had imprisoned Paul for proclaiming Christ's message of hope to Israel - i.e., causing them to be "raised." They were being given hope - i.e., "LIFE." And the Jews didn't like it because it was upsetting their system.

Think about it.

LIFE IN CHRIST IS MORE THAN BIOLOGICAL EXISTENCE

God "breathes" **life** into his people. Not biological life. It is not that kind of "life." It is God's "inspiration" to man. The words "inspire" and "breathe" have the same meaning. You can see how pagans can get it mixed up. The un-raised can misuse and misunderstand the words. God "inspires" men to see and hear - something they could not do before. He "inspires" them. He puts "spirit" into them. He gives them motivation. He causes them to be moved; compelled - like a sail boat is "moved" by "wind" (pneuma).

The Greek word is "pneuma" and means air in motion. Wind. Pneuma is the base of "pneumatic" and "pneumonia." It means "air" - air in motion, or air under pressure.

8. *The wind (pneuma) blows where it wills, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell from where it comes, and where it goes: so is every one that is born of the Spirit (pneuma).*

John 3:8

Man is compelled, motivated, moved; given LIFE; driven by "spirit" (pneuma). Spirit is like wind that drives a sail boat across the water. Spirit puts life into men - like wind puts life (motion) into the sails of boats. You can't see it, but it moves boats on water and leaves on trees. So it is with men who are "moved" to action. They are "inspired"; motivated.

To be "inspired" is to have LIFE. To lack inspiration is to be spiritually DEAD. Unmoved.

Was God raising the dead? Yes, of course He was. Jesus was INSPIRING the dead. He did it by giving them TRUTH - telling them the truth about God. The "good news" INSPIRED them and MOVED them. The Jews saw this effect upon the people and they didn't like it. So they conspired among themselves to prevent this by killing Jesus. Since Jesus appeared to be the source of this new unexplainable effect, the Jews figured they could stop it by killing Him. But that didn't work. Jesus didn't stay dead, and the miracle of NEW LIFE continued.

2. *And Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three weeks reasoned with them out of the scriptures,*
3. *Opening and explaining that it was necessary for Christ to suffer, and to be raised from the dead; and that this is the Christ Jesus, whom I preach to you.*
4. *And some of them were convinced, and joined with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few.*
5. *But the zealous Jews took to them certain wicked merchants, and gathered a crowd, and set the city in an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people.*
6. *But not finding them, they drew Jason and certain brethren to the chiefs of the city, crying, These that upset the world are come here also;*
7. *Who were received by Jason: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is **another king, Jesus.***

Acts 17:2-7

Like today, the Jews knew the system of death; they could manipulate Caesar, but they were helpless against Christ. So they conspired to set Caesar against Christians.

The Jews continued trying to stop the new phenomenon. They detected that Paul was a proponent of Christ, thus Paul was targeted by them because he was proclaiming that men were being raised (motivated; inspired) to NEW LIFE in Jesus. He also claimed that this was the "hope of Israel" (not the Jews). The "life" was operating in Israelites - not in Jews. They arrested Paul.

But after a lengthy hearing the Jews could not agree on what they should do with Paul, so they kept him under house arrest for a time. But Paul continued teaching THE WAY OF LIFE; the RAISING OF THE DEAD.

THE LIVING - VS - THE DEAD

Now that we've discussed the meaning of LIFE, we must consider the flip side of the coin. By that I mean DEATH. Based on what I've explained it becomes obvious that there are two major divisions of people down through history, and today. There are people who are alive, there are people who are dead. Both groups are alive biologically,

but one has spiritual life. The Bible teaches that only the ones who are alive spiritually are able to grasp the teachings of Christ - to have eyes and ears that see and hear. This equation is illustrated throughout the Bible.

Thus we understand that the dead have their system. It is called THE BEAST SYSTEM. And the living have their system. It is called NEW JERUSALEM - the city of life. Today we see it as CHRIST'S REIGN.

The Beast System is of the flesh:

6. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the spirit is spirit.

John 3:6

Also in Ephesians 2:5-6:

5. An we, who were dead in sins, are made alive together with Christ, (by grace you are saved;)

6. And He raises us up together, and sets us together in the heavens in Christ Jesus:

Some people are alive. Others are not. They are DEAD. Their system is the **SYSTEM OF DEATH**. We see them and their system depicted in John 19:15:

15. But they (the Jews) cried out, Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him. Pilate said to them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar.

The dead were confessing their system of death. Caesar's system was man's system. The Jews rejected life, and preferred Caesar. They preferred death; the system of man. Why? Because they knew how to manipulate man's system. The Jews were Persians (Babylonians). Persia's system was weak and subject to manipulation - and the Jews were (and still are) masters at political manipulation.

Persia's system was a system of death. The Jews were born and educated in that system. They were expert in using and manipulating that system. Their political prowess is depicted in John 19:12:

12. Thus Pilate was seeking to release Him (Jesus): but the Jews cried out, saying, If you let this man go you are not a friend of Caesar: anyone who makes himself a king (i.e., Jesus) speaks against Caesar.

The Jews understood the Roman Beast System. They knew how to use it to their own advantage. They knew how to manipulate Pilate. The Jews are masters at manipulating systems of men.

We see this system all around us today. It is **THE BEAST SYSTEM**. And we see powerful Jews in positions at the top, just as it has been since the time of Babylon. The systems of death have been manifested in world empires. The Roman Empire, for example, was an empire of war. The Romans were very good at warfare - but they depended on Babylonians to advise them in politics. The Romans were very good at conquering lands in battle, but

they needed Jewish (Babylonian) skills in politics to keep their citizens passive and under control. Jews like Alexander Hamilton (US Secretary of the Treasury) and Henry Kissinger (US Secretary of State) are there to steer heads-of-state in the arts of politics and banking.

For example, it is well known that early English law forbade usury. English kings claimed to be “Christian” and were constrained by English law against usury. However, Jews were not “Christian.” Thus Jews were not constrained by “Christian law.” They could practice usury. So the English kings, and their families, all had Jews as their ministers of finance. This is how the English nobility were able to deal in usury - by paying Jews to manage their finances.

The Jews have been, down through history, the money masters of banking and usury in all governments. This always put Jews in positions of great power over governments - iterations of the Beast System. Thus all governments were corrupt and controlled ultimately by the few Jews who held the strings of finance (banking) power. This power was how all governments were taught, by Jews, to keep their subjects under control through debt-usury banking. **THIS IS THE SYSTEM OF THE DEAD.**

You can readily see an example of how this works by reading the history of the Jewish Rothschild family and its rise to power through banking in Europe. To this day the Rothschilds are the richest most powerful dynasty in the world. We are told that Elon Musk is the richest man today, but the Rothschilds are far above Elon Musk.

HELL = GRAVE: THE SYMBOL OF DEATH (THE BEAST SYSTEM)

The churches have adopted the pagan doctrine of a burning hell. “Hell” in the English Bible is “gehenna” in Greek. “Gehenna” was a refuse dump site outside Jerusalem. All kinds of refuse was thrown into the pit and burned. It held typical garbage as well as carcasses of animals and sometimes dead people who couldn’t afford burial. The pit had maggots (“worms”) and was burned continually. This is true of most refuse pits even today. Not many still exist today, but I’ve seen many of them in my life. Unlike gehenna, the dump sites I’ve seen probably didn’t have dead bodies in them.

Translators and theologians - hirelings of pagan churches and pagan kings - inserted the pagan “hell” into the text. They brought pagan beliefs over into the Bible. The pagan teaching was that “hell” is a subterranean place of fire. Pagans believed “hell” is a hot underground place, and the kingdom of their mythical “Satan.” Thus, churchgoers were taught this nonsense and were diverted from the real Biblical teaching about life and death - the separate systems of the living and the dead. Pagan myth became church doctrine.

The other Greek word that the translators rendered “hell” was “hades.” Hades means “unseen” - as in the case of the dead. Their lives are disappeared: gone. “Hades” means unseen: out of sight. In Revelation 1:18 Jesus speaks to John and says that He has the keys to “hades

and death” - i.e., the keys to the graves of the dead. Also, Revelation 20:13 says that “hades delivered up the dead that were in it.” “Hades” and “hell” obviously refer to the grave: the place of the dead, and by extension, the system of death - i.e., THE BEAST SYSTEM as opposed to the system of life - i.e., CHRIST’S SYSTEM.

These two systems are set before us and God lets us choose which of the two we prefer. Joshua spoke to this choice:

15. *Choose you this day whom you will serve; ... but as for me and my house, we will serve Yahweh.*

Joshua 24:15

In Romans 6:11 Paul says that we are to reckon ourselves “dead to sin, but alive to God.”

In verse 13 he says that we are “alive from the dead.”

In Luke 20:38 Jesus said that the Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob “is not a God of the dead, but of the living: for all live to Him.” In other words, those who prefer life are drawn to Him.

PRIORITIES

Depending upon whether we are “alive” or “dead” it will determine our choice: God’s system, or man’s system.

In Luke 9:60 Jesus said an interesting thing to one man. Jesus said to him, “**Let the dead bury their dead.**”

How can dead people bury the dead?

In Hebrews 12 Paul said:

22. *But you are come to mount Zion, and to **God’s city of the living**, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of messengers,*

23. *To the assembly of the called-out ones, the firstborn ones having been enrolled in the heavens, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men having been perfected.*

Hebrews 12:22

Paul is talking about God’s System Of The Living - those who are called-out from the System Of Death.

All these designations of “THE LIVING” and “THE DEAD” are referring to people who are biologically alive. But some are of these are “dead.” Dead to truth. Dead to knowledge. Dead to God. Yahweh is the God of the LIVING. The DEAD have another god.

Think on this. Men choose their gods. The “dead” have chosen their god.

Look around you today. Observe a world that is dead to Yahweh. You may have wondered why some people (politicians, news reporters, doctors, military leaders) choose to not see things that are obvious to you. The leaders of this age are outrageous. Blind. Why is that?

It is because they are **DEAD**. They reject **LIFE**.

But you are different. **You are RAISED.**

This explains and simplifies things.

Ben Williams