

DEATH BY DEFAULT

The Holy Spirit has been speaking to me about the difference between life and death lately.

Moses told the Jews in Deuteronomy 30.19

I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing. Therefore choose life, so that you and your descendants may live, and that you may love the LORD your God, obey Him, and hold fast to Him.

For He IS your life, and He will prolong your life in the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."

Jesus said, "He who is not with Me is against Me". Luke 11.23

There are only two categories. For or against.

To the natural mind of Man this may seem a bit harsh and narrow. Many believe that everybody should be able to have their own opinion and do whatever they want.

But this a matter of life or death.

Jesus said, "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it." "For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it." Matthew 7.13

Some people would like to create a noble or even spiritual sounding in-between third category. But there is no gray area between life and death. If you don't have life, you are dead.

God declares that:

There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death. Proverbs 16.25
And

The mind of the flesh is death, but the mind of the Spirit is life and peace Romans 8.6

This in-between third choice only produces death.

God declares;

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, "declares the LORD. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so My ways are higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55.8

God is the only one in the universe who possesses life and can create His life in us.

Jesus proclaimed these words.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that you may have My life, and have it abundantly. John 10.10

Truly, truly, I tell you, whoever hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not come under judgment. Indeed, he has crossed over from death to life.

John 5.24

The Apostle John stated who Jesus is to us and to all of Mankind.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made, and without Him nothing was made that has been made. IN HIM IS LIFE, and that life is the light of men. John 1.1

The Apostle Paul explains our natural condition before God's supernatural work on our behalf.

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned... Romans 5.12

And

You were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you used to walk when you were conformed to the ways of this world and of the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit who is now at work in the sons of disobedience. Ephesians 2.1

Romans 6 explains God's remedy to re-create us out of our spiritually dead state.

We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may walk in newness of His life. Romans 6.4

God has made a perfect provision for us to be re-created and possess His eternal life. It's up to us whether we will receive it or not.

The Apostle John stated in 1 John 5.10;

Whoever believes in the Son of God has this testimony within himself; whoever does not believe God, has made Him out to be a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given about His Son.

And this is that testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

After Jesus fed 5,000 people with a little boy's lunch, they followed Him looking for more bread. He told them not to work for food that perishes, but for eternal life, which the Father will give you.

Then they inquired, "What must we do to perform the works of God?"

Jesus replied, "The work of God is this: to believe in the One He has sent." John 6.28

Many people believe what the Bible says about Jesus, but the Apostle James challenged his church;

"Do you believe in God? That's great, but even the demons believe that and they are scared to death".

To actually possess God's eternal life we must believe and receive everything that Jesus' supernatural sacrifice of Himself, and our death and resurrection with Him, made available to us as our inheritance as His children.

Many people are content to ask God to forgive their sins and then attempt to serve God with the natural nature that we inherited from Adam and Eve. They use their senses, their wills, and their minds, that Paul declared only produces death.

When Jesus came to Earth, He put off His deity and put on a body and was born as a man. He had a body like ours, a brain like ours, and emotions like ours. He got sleepy, hungry, and tired just like us, but He completely surrendered His Spirit, soul, and body to the Holy Spirit. The 4 Gospels record how He demonstrated the eternal life that God has saved us into.

This issue of life or death is not a matter of personal preference. "I like my way better than your way." It's not a multiple choice question either. There are only 2 choices.

The Apostle Paul makes the choice and it's results pretty clear.

Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, WHO IS OUR LIFE, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory. Colossians 3.1

Let's not get caught up in the ocean of varied beliefs, ideologies, opinions, and perceived perceptions of reality from our 5 senses.

Jesus declared, "you will know the truth and the truth will set you free". John 8.32

Jesus also said, "I am the way, I am the truth, and I am the life". John 14.6

Let's not settle for an academic gospel and a comfortable church experience. The question is life or death. There are only 2 choices.

If we don't accept and receive by faith Jesus' supernatural sacrifice and our death and resurrection with Him, we receive death by default, because without His Life, there isn't any.

God bless you.

Jim Fuller

kingdomrealities.org